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RACHKOV EXAMINES CEMA COOPERATION IN ENERGY INDUSTRY

LD261525 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 13 Signed to Press 19 Mar 79 p 20 LD

[Observer B. Rachkov article: "The Energy of Fraternal Cooperation" under rubric "Concerning the 30th Anniversary of CEMA"]

[Text] A reliable supply of fuel and energy resources is an important factor for the successful development of the economy of each individual CEMA country and the socialist community as a whole.

In the CEMA member countries continuous on-going development on a planned basis is characteristic of all the fuel and energy sectors. In recent decades that advanced sector--the electric power industry--has in essence been recreated from scratch in Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Romania. Natural gas extraction has begun to develop in Hungary, the GDR and Poland. Coal extraction, which has been constantly increasing in the traditional coal-extracting countries--the GDR, Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia--is also increasing rapidly in Bulgaria and Romania. Today each of these East European countries, like Poland, the GDR and Czechoslovakia, produce a considerably greater quantity of energy sources [energonositel] on the basis of their own country's resources than any of the big capitalist states like Japan, France or Italy.

In three decades the CEMA countries have almost quintupled production and consumption of the basic types of fuel and hydroelectric energy. Although 10.4 percent of the world's population lives in CEMA countries, they now account for 23 percent of the world's production of energy sources.

As the upper graph shows [text is accompanied by a graph showing "production of the basic types of fuel and hydroelectric energy in the countries of CEMA, the EEC and the United States in the period 1950-1977" based on national statistical data] in 1950 production of the basic types of fuel and hydroelectric energy in the CEMA countries lagged behind the analogous indicators for the EEC countries and was 40 percent less than in the United States. But in 1977 the fraternal socialist countries considerably outdistanced the EEC countries in terms of this indicator and produced 5 percent more fuel and hydroelectric energy than the United States.

The successful development of the CEMA countries' fuel and energy base contrasts sharply with the way in which the imperialist powers are sacrificing the long-term interests of the development of their own fuel extraction sectors to vast profits from the predatory exploitation of oil-rich developing states. Given a more than three-fold total increase in fuel and energy consumption in the capitalist countries during the period 1950-1978, their own production of primary energy resources has increased only 60 percent, which was one of the chief reasons for the energy crisis in the West under the conditions of the breakdown of the neocolonialist structure of the capitalist oil market.

The Frontiers of Mutual Assistance

A tremendous role in the development of the CEMA countries' fuel and energy setup is played not only by the heroic efforts of the people of each of these countries but also by their close cooperation.

Equipment and excavators from the GDR, Poland and the USSR operate at many coal pits and open cut mines, Soviet and Romanian geological prospecting and drilling devices have been installed at oil and gas fields; high-powered generating equipment from the GDR, the USSR and Czechoslovakia has been set up at dozens of power stations, and apparatus from Bulgaria and Hungary is in operation in CEMA countries. Power stations with a capacity of more than 20 million kilowatts have been built in fraternal states with the direct assistance of the Soviet Union.

An important factor in providing our states with fuel and energy is reciprocal deliveries of energy sources through foreign trade channels. For example, during the 10-year period 1966-1975 alone Poland supplied other CEMA countries with more than 100 million tons of bituminous coal.

The Soviet Union provides the main share of foreign trade deliveries of energy sources within the CEMA framework. Loyal to its international duty, the Soviet Union has created production capacities in the fuel and energy sphere taking into account not only its own requirements but also the needs of the entire socialist community and this has become one of the chief factors for the especially rapid and large-scale development of these sectors in the USSR.

While production of primary energy sources in the other CEMA countries increased 160 percent in the period 1951-1977, the increase was 460 percent in the Soviet Union. This provided the opportunity to increase annual exports of oil and petroleum products to fraternal countries from 800,000 tons in 1950 to 77 million tons in 1976, and of this figure about 10 million tons is earmarked for Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia. Coal exports increased from 600,000 tons to 15 million tons annually. Natural gas deliveries which began in the sixties increased to 13.4 billion cubic meters in 1976. Deliveries of electric power from the USSR to the other fraternal countries are in excess of 10 billion kilowatt-hours annually.

Large-scale fuel and energy installations being created by the joint efforts of the fraternal countries concerned are considerably improving our states' energy supply prospects. Thus, the attainment of full-capacity operation by the Soyuz gas pipeline, in whose creation Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, and Czechoslovakia participated, will increase the deliveries of Orenburg natural gas to the European regions of the USSR by approximately 10 billion cubic meters per year and to the East European CEMA countries that participated in building the gas pipeline by 15.5 billion cubic meters per year. With the commissioning of the power line from Vinnitsa in the USSR to Albertirsa in Hungary, deliveries of electricity to Hungary, the GDR, and Czechoslovakia will increase by 6.4 billion kilowatt-hours annually.

In all, during the current 5-year plan period exports of energy sources from the USSR to other CEMA countries, judging by the agreements concluded, will total 800 million tons of standard fuel compared with 560 million tons during the previous 5-year period, which represents a 43 percent increase. The fraternal countries are increasing deliveries of their products for the USSR's national economy accordingly.

Deliveries from the USSR now cover approximately 25 percent of the total consumption of energy resources in other CEMA countries including about 80 percent of the oil consumed.

In the seventies a qualitatively new approach by the CEMA countries to problems of future cooperation in the fuel and energy sphere has begun to appear. It is dictated primarily by the requirements of scientific and technical progress and also by the need to take measures in good time in connection with the growing deficit of previously developed natural resources in a number of CEMA countries, including the European part of the USSR.

Clear Prospects

The 32d CEMA session in the summer of 1978 approved a long-term targeted cooperation program in the sphere of energy, fuel and raw materials. [paragraph continues]

It singles out as the main direction the accelerated development of the nuclear power industry. With the Soviet Union's technical assistance a number of large AES's with a capacity of 37 million kilowatts will be built in the eighties in the European CEMA countries and in Cuba. The implementation of the projects for AES construction will enable the East European CEMA countries and Cuba to save 75 million tons of standard fuel annually which is, incidentally, equivalent to approximately half their present fuel and energy imports from the USSR.

Broad multilateral production sharing and specialization in the field of equipment for AES's is envisaged. Thus, this is the purpose of the building of the Atomash plant in the USSR and the upgrading of the capacities of other plants which will turn out the basic nuclear machinebuilding products--complete powerful reactors, steam turbines and a wide range of instruments and apparatuses. Czechoslovakia has undertaken to manufacture reactor equipment, steam generators and main circular pipe conduits. Bulgaria plans to produce biological protection systems and accessories. Hungary will produce mechanisms for servicing reactors, and Poland will produce volume compensators and diesel generators. A center is in operation at the Novovoronezhskaya AES where 350 experts from fraternal countries are trained each year for work at AES's.

Other important directions of the program are focussed on the use of oil and gas primarily in the chemical industry and on replacing oil and gas in furnaces and burners with solid fuels, stocks of which in the European CEMA countries alone total about 105 billion tons. The more thorough refinement of oil is envisaged which will be equivalent to the European CEMA countries' obtaining an additional 15 million tons of fuel and lubricants annually. The more active use of reserves for reducing the energy-intensiveness of products and saving energy resources is scheduled.

The special program defines the shape that cooperation will assume in the sphere of exploratory and geological prospecting work especially in rendering the appropriate assistance to the less industrially developed CEMA countries. The further expansion of mutually advantageous cooperation with developing countries in the oil industry sphere is also scheduled.

The CEMA Executive Committee session which took place in Moscow in January 1979 discussed a draft general agreement on cooperation in building the Khmel'nitskaya AES on USSR territory through the joint efforts of interested CEMA countries and a draft agreement on cooperation in building and operating the 750 kilovolt power line from the Khmel'nitskaya AES (USSR) to Rzeszow (Poland) and the Rzeszow substation. An agreement was signed on guaranteed deliveries of electric power on the basis of the realization of an intersystem saving from integrating the electric load schedules and electric power generation capacity reserves following the commissioning of the Vinnitsa-Albertirsa power line.

Addressing a pre-election meeting of voters of Moscow's City's Baumanskiy Electoral Okrug on 2 March 1979, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev observed: "In the sphere of economic ties CEMA's role has increased appreciably. It has become an important instrument for the solution of the socialist countries national economic tasks. CEMA is greeting its 30th anniversary in a businesslike fashion: It is preparing for the signing of a number of new joint economic projects, and the elaboration of two more long-term targeted programs is nearing completion. Good deeds are the best way of celebrating a jubilee!"

SECURITY COUNCIL PASSES RESOLUTION ON ISRAELI-OCCUPIED LANDS

LD231324 Moscow TASS in English 1040 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

["UNO: Israel's Expansionist Policy Denounced"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, March 23, TASS--TASS correspondent Valentin Vasilets reports:

Israel's policy of colonization of the occupied Arab lands is a crying violation of international agreements and numerous U.N. resolutions. Tel Aviv's actions deprive the Arab people of Palestine of their native lands and, consequently, rule out a possibility of solution of the Palestinian problem and lead to frustration of a comprehensive Middle East settlement.

That has been shown by many-day long discussion of the question of the situation in the occupied Arab lands, which ended at the Security Council on Thursday. A direct link between Israel's policy of annexation and the separate agreement, drawn up by Egypt and Israel with the assistance of the United States, was also shown in the course of the discussion. As was noted by many speakers, the so-called "administrative autonomy" for the Western Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip, envisaged in accordance with this separate deal, means only the furtherance of Israel's plans to consolidate itself on the captured lands and means deprivation of the Arab people of Palestine of its sovereign rights, including the right to self-determination.

If anybody still had doubts on that score, they were dispelled by Israel's Prime Minister Begin, who said in the days when the discussion at the Security Council was still under way that there would never be a Palestinian state on the occupied lands.

None of 40 speakers, who took the floor at the Security Council, but the Israeli delegate, denied the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, said permanent representative of Kuwait Abdallah al-Bishara. He called upon the Security Council to denounce Begin's statement.

In a resolution, which was passed by the Security Council, it is noted that Israel's policy and practices in establishing settlements on the Palestinian and other Arab lands are illegal and are a grave obstacle in the way to attaining a comprehensive, just and durable peace in the Middle East. The document expresses profound regret over Tel Aviv's refusal to observe the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

The resolution points out that decision has been taken to institute a commission to see into the situation relating to settlements on the occupied Arab lands, including in Jerusalem. When the vote was taken on the resolution, the abstentions were the delegations of the United States, Britain and Norway.

The USSR's permanent representative at the United Nations Oleg Troyanovskiy said in his speech that the Soviet delegation backed the draft resolution as going in a correct direction.

Jordan's representative at whose request the Security Council was called expressed regret over the stand taken by the United States, Britain and Norway, which actually means indifference to the fate of the whole people.

U.S. BUDGET SEEN MARKING NEWS ARMS RACE TWIST

LD261407 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[Article by Col M. Petrov and Maj Yu. Gavrilov: "To Please the 'Hawks': About the U.S. Military Budget"]

[Text] The most important problem at the present time is that of war and peace. Its successful resolution largely depends on whether the arms race can be curbed. This task is today more acute than ever.

Following the course of the peace program elaborated by the 24th and 25th party congresses, the Soviet Union is consistently waging the struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the peoples' freedom and independence. The Soviet Union's efforts aimed at deepening detente, reducing the size of armies and quantities of arms, curtailing military budgets and strengthening international security are approved and supported by all the planet's progressive forces. However, the development of many events in the world is giving rise to serious concern. The arms race is growing, fueled by aggressive circles. This is graphically evident in the constant growth of military appropriations in NATO countries, and in the United States above all.

At the end of January the U.S. President sent to Congress the draft budget for fiscal 1980. As the American press points out, the items in the budget, particularly those relating to military appropriations, are being hotly debated. "President Carter's call for support of his military spending program in his State of the Union message," the Washington POST wrote, "will scarcely be supported automatically by Congress and the public, and this program will not be ratified without a lot of argument and substantial amendments." The newspaper points out that, although the struggle over the U.S. military budget is traditional, this year it is distinguished by special acuteness since it is proposed to increase military spending and at the same time reduce the expenditure side of the federal budget at the expense of "civilian" programs of appropriations for social needs.

At the same time, as protests against the plans for increased military spending are growing among broad American public circles, high-ranking Pentagon figures and representatives of the military-industrial complex have mounted an active campaign to "indoctrinate" public opinion and Congress with a view to securing approval for the sums of military spending planned by the administration.

These sums are truly astronomical. The "ceiling" for military appropriations in the draft budget submitted to Congress stands at the record figure of \$138.2 billion. It is impossible to ignore the fact that the new budget is being shaped under conditions when public opinion and sober-minded figures throughout the world, including the United States, are increasingly actively advocating the strengthening of detente and constructive steps to curb the arms race. Nevertheless, the sums now being requested by the President for the Pentagon's "needs" exceed by almost 80 percent the country's maximum military expenditure at the height of the U.S. aggression in Vietnam.

Americans well remember that in 1976, when he was a candidate for the presidency, J. Carter promised voters to cut the military budget, which did not then exceed \$100 billion, by \$5-8 billion annually. But in fact everything is different now. In fiscal 1978 the Pentagon was allocated \$117.9 billion, and in 1979 approximately \$128 billion.

Observers point out that however great the sum of military expenditure planned at present might be, in reality it could be even greater. [paragraph continues]

The American press has aptly nicknamed the U.S. military budget "a spire soaring above the flat plain of other government programs." However, the appropriations being allocated directly to the Pentagon are just the visible tip of this "spire." Considerable sums are also allocated to the Department of Energy, called the "little Pentagon," to develop, test and manufacture nuclear weapons. A considerable portion of the funds earmarked for military purposes is hidden in the budgets of--at first glance--purely "civilian" departments. The appropriations for NASA, which figure in the federal budget under the "general science, space and technology" program, have a military thrust, as do those for the General Services Administration, which handles the creation of strategic stocks of raw materials and materials in short supply for military production. The federal budget, according to Western specialists, also includes other codified headings making it possible to finance military programs secretly.

But on what does the Pentagon propose spending the astronomical sums being allocated to it? As one of its high-ranking spokesmen has declared, the military budget "reflects the aims of the present administration's military policy." Analysis of the draft budget submitted to Congress by the administration leads to the conclusion that Washington's aim is to achieve the notorious military "superiority" with the help of a sharp new leap in the arms race.

One of the distinguishing features of the draft new budget is the considerable increase in appropriations for the program to renew the U.S. nuclear missile arsenal. Some \$10.8 billion is being requested for the further development of strategic forces--an increase of 25 per cent over the previous year. Work will continue on the creation of MX mobile ICBM's, and it is proposed to launch at full speed the program to develop the Trident underwater nuclear missile complex and further enhance the combat potential of the strategic air force. It is planned to complete the work on creating and developing the manufacture of cruise missiles. Funds have also been allocated to "study the possibilities of creating" an "intermediate"-range nuclear missile for deployment in Western Europe designed, as Britain's THE FINANCIAL TIMES writes, to "hit targets deep inside the Soviet Union"--that is, capable of fulfilling strategic tasks. Some \$3 billion has been earmarked directly for nuclear weapons. Funds are also being allocated to develop other more "sophisticated" systems of weapons of mass destruction.

The new budget provides for a further buildup of conventional arms, the technical reequipping of troops and increasing combat readiness--for which \$50 billion is allocated. Special attention is paid to the qualitative and quantitative improvement of the American troops destined for use in Europe within the NATO framework. In fiscal 1980 it is planned to increase sharply the numbers of artillery pieces and antitank weapons in American troop formations and units in Western Europe, as well as to expand considerably the stocks of arms and combat materiel at U.S. dumps in West European countries. According to a UPI report, this is to provide the possibility of quickly equipping an additional six divisions, whose personnel could be transferred to Western Europe from the United States "in the event of the threat of war."

The volume of purchases of arms and combat materiel is increasing substantially. It is planned to allocate more than \$35 billion for these purposes, which is 12 per cent more than in the current fiscal year. With these funds the Pentagon is acquiring new weapons systems for the ground forces. The navy is planning to build new ships, and the air force intends to acquire a considerable number of modern fighters, ground-attack aircraft, other aviation equipment, and so forth.

Trying to quell the wave of criticism of the new twist in the arms race, representatives of the American leadership and its related U.S. military-industrial complex are making attempts to justify their actions with farfetched references to the mythical "Soviet military threat" and the USSR's "aggressive aspirations." U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown and Gen D. Jones, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, recently delivered routine speeches on this hackneyed topic to the Senate Budget Committee, "substantiating" the administration's request for Pentagon appropriations.

It is noteworthy that among the many "arguments" being manipulated by the disseminators of the "Soviet threat" myth, increasingly frequent exaggeration is being lent to the argument that the USSR is increasing its military spending too: If military parity exists between the USSR and the United States, they say, the increase in military appropriations in the United States must be mirrored by the same process in the USSR. Hence, false conclusions are drawn that the Soviet Union "conceals" its true defense spending and "understates" it in official documents.

These are malicious assertions. Their purpose is to justify the growth in military spending by the United States and its allies and to cast aspersions on the USSR's peace-loving policy.

It is generally known that the USSR spends funds not on achieving military superiority but on insuring reliable defence. As distinct from the United States, the Soviet Union has not enmeshed the globe in a network of military bases, on whose upkeep Washington spends considerable funds for purposes that are in no way peaceful. Unlike the United States, the USSR does not have a mercenary army, demanding additional expenditure. As distinct from the United States, the Soviet defense industry does not serve as a source of profit, and the USSR does not have a military-industrial complex fueling the arms race and the price of weapons. These and other factors utterly refute the fabrications about some kind of "growth" of military spending in the Soviet Union.

"We spend as much on defense as is absolutely necessary," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev has pointed out. "No less, but no more either."

The Soviet Union's efforts are aimed, above all, at ending the arms race and supplementing political detente with military detente. The whole world knows that precisely the Soviet Union has repeatedly proclaimed its readiness to conclude with the United States any agreements guaranteeing the two sides' equal security. It was the USSR which initiated from the UN platform a realistic program for totally ending the arms race, which was evaluated highly by the majority of states and the broad people's masses striving for dependable peace.

Certain influential U.S. forces need anti-Soviet rhetoric and attacks regarding the "Soviet threat" as a cover for a policy of concessions to the "hawks," who are seeking to gain the possibility of using the U.S. military might and nuclear potential to put pressure on other countries.

The draft military budget, which gives another boost to the arms race, attests that some people in the United States would like to slow down the process of easing international tension. The advocates of such ventures are plainly at odds with reality. They are forgetting the lessons of modern history, which bear witness that an arms race has always, in the final analysis, rebounded on its initiators and champions.

PRAVDA ACCUSES BRZEZINSKI OF DISTORTED WORLD VIEW

ID261201 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 79 p 5 ID

[S. Vishnevskiy article under "International Comments" rubric: "Back Into his Old Ways...."]

[Text] Far-sighted people on the banks of the Potomac realized as far back as last summer that Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski's "tough" public speeches against detente not only did not adorn American oratorical art but were of no benefit to U.S. foreign policy. At the end of July Secretary of State C. Vance announced that the White House had decided that only "two men will speak on behalf of the United States--either the President or myself." For a while the President's national security aide Brzezinski kept quiet. But the professor's familiar voice was heard again recently. This time in an interview with Gen (ret) J. Steinhoff, chairman of the Editorial Council of the journal 15 NATO COUNTRIES.

As was to be expected of a former NATO military chief who was once one of Hitler's ace airmen, his questions were couched in a militarist spirit. Immediately, the general began to ask about the "Soviet military threat." The interviewee waxed voluble about the "steady buildup of Soviet military potential." Brzezinski sees the "hand of the reds" everywhere. The Russians, he says, "have a constant desire to use available opportunities to create instability in the world" and this, he claims, could "give impetus to future conflicts between East and West." Back into his old ways....

We have before us the same well-known concept of confrontation. Everywhere there are fatal passions. Everywhere there is antagonism and conflict. Today and tomorrow. "In the future," Brzezinski predicts, "increasing difficulties and problems will arise in regions like the Persian Gulf zone...." The international horizons are shrouded in gloom. In short, there is no ray of hope.

It was noted long ago that the logic in the professor's theoretical calculations is frequently shaky. For instance, he clearly admits: "We are dealing now with an approximate balance of military power." How can we reconcile this indisputable fact with the fabrication about "the danger of increasing disequilibrium in the military potentials of East and West?" The two things don't tally.

But the President's assistant, as we can see, is not taken aback by this flagrant contradiction. He simply needed to cast a shadow on the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy in order to call for the worldwide development of militarist preparations by the United States and NATO as a whole.

He militates for the hiking of the NATO countries' military budgets, the creation of "new families of military systems," the modernization of armaments, and the buildup of NATO's armed forces, including an increase in U.S. contingents in Europe. Without beating around the bush he proclaims a course toward insuring the superiority of NATO naval forces. He insists on the "absolute necessity" of massive military maneuvers by the bloc's armed forces which, as is well known, are of an openly provocative nature.

The danger of these appeals becomes absolutely clear when it is a case of the elaboration of U.S. military strategy. In the interview Brzezinski hints transparently at his heightened interest in the doctrine of a "limited nuclear war" which the Pentagon men are extolling. This is confirmation of the recent report by the well-informed New York TIMES military commentator R. Burt that the President's assistant is a "resolute supporter" of this dangerous doctrine.

There was a sinister ring to the promise in the interview "to take the necessary steps" to "resist challenges" outside the NATO sphere. In other words, to use the bloc's mobile forces as punitive gendarmes to suppress national liberation movements. For this the United States is placing "emphasis throughout the world on insuring the potential for the rapid transfer of forces."

It follows from the interview that the Washington strategist is continuing to hold on to the "China card." "A strong China is in the West's interests," he said. In East Asia he discovers "increasing dynamism." What is implied by this? Surely not the Chinese aggression against Vietnam, which Brzezinski did not condemn at all.

Such is the global panorama as Z. Brzezinski sees it. The question arises: But where is the process of detente--that dominant trend of international life? The word "detente" is encountered just once in the interview. And in the following context: "We should not allow the opposite side to use detente to prevent" NATO from carrying out military measures. It emerges that detente for Brzezinski is also a hindrance.

The professor looks at the globe and sees no positive changes on the planet--neither detente nor the states' developing cooperation, nor the peace-loving countries' persistent efforts to curb the arms race, nor talks on military detente measures. He does not even mention the expression SALT-II (strategic arms limitation) which is now being uttered hopefully by many Americans.

The world as Brzezinski imagines it is far from reality. Only by deviating from a realistic view of international life is it possible to advance the dangerous program of confrontations which he did not hesitate to describe to the NATO journal. Was he speaking on behalf of the United States? I should like to hope not.

U.S. STAND ON PRC ATTACK AGAINST VIETNAM ANALYZED

LD231534 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 23, TASS--China's venture in Vietnam, as the latest developments show, was a fiasco, in both military and political terms, writes Oleg Anichkin in the Soviet English-language newspaper MOSCOW NEWS INFORMATION.

With its invasion of Vietnam, China discarded its hypocritical mask, revealing its true interventionist and expansionist nature, the ominous essence of Chinese hegemonism and its threat to world peace. Those who encouraged the Chinese aggressors have also revealed their true characters and showed that their behaviour, either directly or indirectly encouraging China's attack on Vietnam is no less dangerous to the cause of peace.

Statesmen in many countries, including the USA, are beginning to realize this. J. Ochs, editor and owner of the New York TIMES, charging the J. Carter administration with many foreign policy failures, wrote that the Chinese would obviously not start an attack on Vietnam before establishing new relations with the USA. He went on to declare that the Chinese needed this agreement much more than the Americans did, so as to pave the way for the operation to "punish Vietnam". Maybe Washington also wants to "teach Vietnam a lesson" by proxy for its defeat in the recent past. Washington was well aware beforehand that China was preparing to invade Vietnam--and not only because Deng Xiaoping spoke of this during his visit to the USA in January. Washington had information from other sources as well.

If China openly pays no heed to world public opinion, then the USA, which frequently professes concern for international peace, is now forced to manoeuvre so as to escape responsibility for encouraging the activities of China's present rulers. Washington sees that many states, including its allies in military blocs, want to disengage themselves from steps that might be seen as encouraging the Chinese aggression.

The USA had to take steps to combat the growing conviction of world public opinion that Washington directly colluded with Beijing. M. Blumenthal, secretary of treasury, was sent to Beijing to take part in the opening of the U.S. Embassy and to hold trade and economic talks. But, as it turned out, this was not his main mission. The President's highly placed emissary, as the U.S. mass media took pains to present him, posed in Beijing as nothing short of a peace-maker. He voiced some belated warnings to the Chinese about the possible results of their actions--but it looked more like he was just ticking off the aggressor for going too far. As a result, the main aim of the trip, as planned in Washington, was not achieved and this journey proved counterproductive.

The USA's tactics in the U.N. Security Council's discussions on the situation in Southeast Asia as a whole also drew a blank. Here, too, the Americans tried to pose as the initiators of "peace-making" in Southeast Asia. In reality their plan was to condemn Vietnam rather than discuss the situation in that region. No wonder, Deng Xiaoping in one of his latest speeches declared quite openly that he gave his "heartfelt support" to the Security Council discussions.

China's treachery and its total disregard for world peace generates grave anxiety in the non-aligned countries, among West European statesmen and even in the USA. M. Desai, prime minister of India, condemned the Chinese intervention in Vietnam. "Beijing's action against the SRV constitute an aggression", he said, "and we must call a spade a spade." The African states, which only recently witnessed how Beijing actively sided with the neocolonialists in their struggle against the liberation movement, are also concerned about the wider implications of the Chinese aggression.

H. Schmidt, the FRG chancellor, also expressed anxiety about the effect China's policy might have on detente. France demanded an end to the Chinese invasion and the withdrawal of all Chinese troops from Vietnam. The practical implementation of Beijing's hegemonist policy and the encouragement given to China's aggression and expansionism obviously aggravate tension internationally, and not only in Southeast Asia. All this has an adverse effect on the international climate, especially now that vital disarmament talks are in progress.

People in the USA are beginning to realize ever more clearly the dangers of getting involved in Beijing's policies. This also seems to have become clear to those who naively hoped that a rapprochement with China "would draw it into modern rules of behaviour in the present world community" and that, in the long run, China would start following a "moderate and restrained" policy. Those who were harbouring malicious plans to benefit from the rapprochement with China on an anti-Soviet basis stepped into the "Chinese trap" before the eyes of the whole world. They either did not or didn't want to take into account the fact that China is pursuing a policy of its own, guided only by its own selfish interests, and wants to make the USA its ally against the USSR. The solution of vitally important international problems and above all the ending of the arms race and the achievement of disarmament, which would make world peace and prosperity possible, can be attained only if the Chinese hegemonists are rebuffed in their pursuit of their own dangerous and destructive goals in world politics.

BEIJING'S PROVOCATIONS AGAINST LAOS DENOUNCED

OW270346 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 25 Mar 79 OW

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the past few days the Beijing authorities have noticeably stepped up provocations against the Lao People's Democratic Republic. China has continued to concentrate troops, tanks, artillery and armored vehicles along the Sino-Lao border, carry out military exercises in areas adjacent to Laos and send groups of armed saboteurs to the northern provinces of Laos. Chinese troops have invaded Lao territory at inhabited points in [place names indistinct] in Luang Namtha Province and seized some areas. Ethnic Chinese residing in Laos are increasingly involved in hostile activities against the lawful government in Laos. They have formed armed groups which will go into operation in the event of a Chinese attack on Laos. The Beijing authorities have also supported the reactionaries who fled Laos and have tried to stir up unrest among minority nationalities in Laos in order to undermine its national security.

China's hostile actions against Laos, a small country, are similar to the situation on the Sino-Vietnamese border before Beijing launched its military intervention against Socialist Vietnam. The Lao people demand that the Chinese authorities stop activities threatening the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Laos and stop interfering in its internal affairs. Rallying around the People's Revolutionary Party, the Lao working people have held meetings in Vientiane and other cities, resolutely condemning the Beijing ruling clique's expansionist activities. The Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries call on China to stop showing its military strength on the Lao border and stop preparations to invade Laos. The Soviet Government's statement points out: The Chinese aggressors must realize that the more crimes they commit, the more severe the punishment they will receive.

RUDE PRAVO CITED ON PRC 'AGGRESSIVE' POLICY TOWARD NEIGHBORS

LD261746 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Prague, March 26, TASS--The roots of aggressive militarism, great power chauvinism and hegemonism, so characteristic of the ideology and practice of the Beijing leadership, far back into the past, [as received] writes the paper RUDE PRAVO. It is the aggressive traditions of the Chinese war-lords that have inspired the petit-bourgeois nationalists in the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party who always dreamed of reviving the "Middle Kingdom". Testimony to this, in addition to scores of utterings by Mao Zedong and his followers, are the Beijing leadership's concrete actions in regard to its neighbours. All aggressive sallies against neighboring states, unfold, generally speaking, according to one and the same pattern, the RUDE PRAVO continues. The first phase sees claims under the thesis of a so-called "disputed borderline". Then Beijing deliberately provokes conflicts on that "disputed" border, which grow over into open aggression. At the third stage the "justification" begins, with hundreds of "testimonies" to "prove the blame of the adversary" and the "exceptional restraint" allegedly exercised by Beijing. It is not even without a "striving to settle" the question of a new borderline.

Such "concern" for "peaceful coexistence" with its neighbours usually ended in the occupation of a considerable part of territory and the transfer of the borderline several kilometres in China's favour. This is the way Beijing acted in its conflicts with Burma and India, during the armed seizure of the Paracel Islands in 1974. It is trying to act in the same way also in regard to Vietnam and Laos. The Beijing leaders are forgetting, however, stresses the RUDE PRAVO in conclusion, that these countries, who have reliable friends, will never bow before the aggressor.

PRC-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP CALLED MILITARIST, ANTI-SOVIET

LD252058 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 25 Mar 79 LD

["Beijing and Its Friends"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, March 25, TASS--According to a report of the KYODO TSUSHIN news agency from Beijing, Liao Chegzi, deputy chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, at a meeting with a group of Japanese economists stated that [few words indistinct] visit to the PRC by former Prime Minister of Japan Nobusuke Kishi. Notorious for his pro-American views, Kishi is being suspected of accepting big bribes from the U.S. aircraft companies Grumman and McDonnell-Douglas. The newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN points out that the approval of a visit by Kishi--the key figure in the scandalous case which is under investigation, by China, now, is an unprecedented thing.

Such "trifles," however, embarrass Beijing little. Thus, during his recent stay in Japan on his way from the USA, Deng Xiaoping, deputy premier of the State Council of the PRC, first of all called on one of 'old friends of China' former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka. The latter, as is known, is under trial for accepting 500 million yen as a bribe from the U.S. Lockheed corporation for assistance in the sale of aircraft made by the company to the Japanese "self-defence forces." Deng Xiaoping invited Tanaka to visit Peking again. Not forgetting the "old friends", China insistently looks for new ones among Japanese "hawks" and the military. It is not fortuitous that in a conversation with the above mentioned group of Japanese economists, Song Pinghua declared for a visit to China by representatives of Seirankai--the right-wing grouping in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party of Japan.

While demanding that members of the Communist Party of Japan be excluded from delegations sent to China, Beijing receives militarists with pleasure. Over the six months of last year alone, the newspaper ASAHI SHIMBUN reports, China was visited by four delegations of retired top-ranking officers of "self-defence forces" who keep close ties with the National Defence Agency. General T. Takashina, the present chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also received an official invitation to visit Beijing. A group of officers and men of the former imperial army who are members of the War Veterans League--a big anticommunist and ultranationalist organisation--returned recently after their visit to China.

The Chinese leadership officially approves of the Japanese-U.S. security treaty and is pressing for a build-up of Japanese armed forces and militarisation of the country. Beijing's course towards an expansion and strengthening of contacts with right-wing and military circles of Japan markedly intensified after the signing of the Japanese-Chinese "Treaty of Peace and Friendship." For the purposes of realisation of its anti-Soviet and aggressive policy, China is ready to go to an alliance and friendship with imperialists and reactionaries of every stripe, emphasizes the newspaper of Japanese communists, AKAHATA. The circle of the Japanese friends of Beijing now ranges from notorious bribetakers and anti-Sovietists to ultrarightists and militarists.

JAPANESE EMBASSY PROTESTS SOVIET FIRING PRACTICE

OW231313 Tokyo KYODO in English 1305 GMT 23 Mar 79 OW

[Text] Moscow, 23 Mar (KYODO)--The Japanese Embassy called on the Soviet Union Friday to cancel its establishment Wednesday of off-limit zones including the Soviet-held Etorofu Island and a section of Japanese waters, for the purpose of holding firing practice.

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According to an Embassy spokesman, the Embassy also protested to the Soviet Foreign Ministry over its belated report on the schedule of the military exercises which reached the Japanese side three hours after its start and while Japanese fishing boats were still cruising in the area.

The Soviet side, while promising to investigate the cause of the belated report, renewed its refusal to consider Japan's claim of sovereignty over Etorofu Island, he said.

PLANS FOR JOINT JAPAN-U.S. MILITARY EXERCISE NOTED

OW270325 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1400 GMT 26 Mar 79 OW

[Text] The Japanese Defense Agency has worked out a plan to conduct a large-scale Japan-U.S. joint military exercise this year. According to Asahi SHIMBUN, this plan was worked out in accordance with the guidelines of Japan-U.S. joint operations which were decided on late last year. The Japanese Self-Defense Forces carried out a large-scale joint exercise with the U.S. 7th Fleet last month near Okinawa. In March, two joint exercises were conducted by the Japanese and U.S. air forces and a large-scale U.S.-ROK joint exercise was staged in South Korea.

USTINOV SENDS ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE TO MONGOLIAN DEFENSE MINISTER

LD230915 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To Col Gen J. Abhia, Mongolian minister of defense,

Esteemed comrade minister!

On behalf of the Soviet Armed Forces and myself I send you and all Mongolian servicemen combat greetings and cordial congratulations on the 58th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army.

We note with deep satisfaction that between our countries' peoples and armed forces an indissoluble fraternity and combat cooperation have developed which have stood the test of time and which will continue to develop and strengthen on the basis of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual aid between the USSR and Mongolia.

On this red-letter day I wish you, comrade minister, and all our Mongolian comrades-in-arms further successes in fulfilling the tasks set by the 17th MPRP Congress of further strengthening your socialist motherland's defense capability.

With communist greetings,

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR defense minister.

AFGHAN ANGER AT FOREIGN 'PROVOCATIONS' REPORTED

LD261505 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent K. Rashidov report: "The People's Determination"--names in parentheses as transliterated]

[Text] Kabul--On the first day of (Nou Ruz), the Afghan New Year by Muslim reckoning, it was already quite warm in Kabul. The sun shone brightly. From early morning, residents dressed in festive clothes hurried to pay the traditional visits with New Year congratulations to their relations and acquaintances.

As is the custom everywhere, on entering the new year people here sum up the results of the past year. And in all the country's many centuries of history, you probably could not find such a remarkable year as last year. The April revolution, which was victorious in Afghanistan, opened up the path for broad democratic transformations which affected all strata of society.

"This is natural," (K. Nurzay), Afghan deputy minister of information and culture, said in a talk with me. "The changes affect the most important aspects of our life, the most urgent problems. Remember what we faced after the revolution--almost universal illiteracy among the population, unemployment, poverty, economic backwardness..."

The first decrees and practical steps of Afghanistan's democratic government meant that the end had come for the feudal and semifeudal orders. They meant the end of the exploitation of the vast majority of the rural population by a small group of landowners and usurers. They meant the removal of unjust laws with respect to women, and cruel and inhumane laws such as, in particular, giving underage girls in marriage and paying bride money. The struggle to further eliminate illiteracy among the population is proceeding successfully everywhere and hundreds of new schools, hospitals and kindergartens have been and are being constructed.

The new system, despite the tremendous difficulties associated with the lamentable legacy of the past, is successfully resolving tasks in the country's economic development. Literally the other day the Afghan Revolutionary Council ratified the plan elaborated by the government for the first year of the First 5-Year Plan for the Republic's economic and social development. It is a program for the development of the country's agriculture and industry which will make it possible in the short term to resolve the highly acute problem of building the country's own industry and intensifying agriculture, which is in an extremely backward state.

At a time when Afghanistan's people under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party are working intensively to implement democratic transformations in the country, the enemies of the April revolution have also intensified their hostile activity in some places. Bourgeois and feudal elements, the reactionary section of the clergy and all those circles whose privileges were ended by the revolution are offering fierce resistance to the people's government. Orienting themselves toward and relying on direct external support, they are organizing armed provocations and conspiracies implemented from the territory of Iran and Pakistan. Terrorist gangs and formations are carefully trained across the border [za kordonom] for transfer to Afghanistan. The actions of the revolution's enemies are provoking anger and indignation among the Afghan public. Rallies of many thousands of people stigmatizing the actions of the April revolution's enemies have been held in Kabul and in other cities and provinces. The rally participants have spoken of their wholehearted support for the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and of the desire of all the country's democratic forces to resolutely rebuff counterrevolution.

"Revolution and the transfer of power to the people," (Muhammad Vali), worker in the state printing plant in Kabul, told me, "are impossible without struggle against enemies. They always have patrons in the camp of the imperialists and bourgeoisie who supply these cutthroats with money and weapons. But we are prepared to rebuff them resolutely and we are doing so. The gains of the April revolution are dear to the entire Afghan people, who are vigilantly guarding those gains." In their counterrevolutionary activity the April revolution's enemies are also gambling on religion, attempting to influence people's minds and mood from that direction too.

"The forces of imperialism and reaction always feed on falsehood," Mulavi Abd al-'Aziz, a well-known clergyman in the country and chairman of the Afghanistan Council of Ulemas--the supreme ecclesiastical organ--said in conversation with your correspondent. "And now they are aiming their venomous sting against our motherland. Figures from the Muslim Brotherhood organization are maliciously slandering our democratic state, using religious slogans as a cover. But they cannot fool the people, who see the democratic system as the guarantee of their investments, who are fulfilling their most cherished aspirations and who are working toward a bright new life." Mulavi Abd al-'Aziz spoke of believers' unanimous support for the revolutionary transformations implemented in the country under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party. The shameless enemies of our state, he said, are clamoring about "oppression and "persecution" of clergymen and Muslims in general which are supposedly taking place in our country. All this is malicious slander, the Muslim figure stressed.

...Spring has come on Afghan soil. The almond tree is blossoming in the south and the snow is melting on the mountains surrounding Kabul, giving way to a carpet of grass and flowers. Spring is always beautiful in Afghanistan. As one of my Afghan colleagues aptly said, it is doubly beautiful in this renewed country.

AFGHAN PAPER COMMENTS ON WESTERN MEDIA 'FABRICATIONS'

LD262218 Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 26, TASS--The newspaper Kabul TIMES carried an article issuing a resolute rebuff to foreign denigrators that specialise in the fabrication of "news" about Afghanistan. The article accuses the mouth-pieces of imperialism, the British Broadcasting Corporation, in particular, that are trying in any way to denigrate the April revolution, and go on air with ill-intentioned fabrications about the situation in the country.

The newspaper writes that it is not for the first time that imperialist media calumniate revolutionary Afghanistan and shed tears over imperialism henchmen thrown overboard by the heroic people under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan--the vanguard of the country's working class.

Imperialism and its henchmen do not want to reconcile themselves to the loss of Afghanistan which has rich natural resources and is of strategic importance. Neither do they want to reconcile themselves to the fact that Afghanistan gained its sovereignty and full national independence, and now independently takes decisions on matters of foreign and domestic policy. They are also enraged by the fact that the April revolution in the country became an inspiring example to other peoples.

The Kabul TIMES is telling the enemies of the Afghan people that neither they nor any kind of denigrators will ever manage to revive the hateful past in Afghanistan--the country which embarked upon the road of genuine revolutionary transformations which meet the interests of the Afghan people.

MORE ON THAI PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT, SOVIET-THAI RELATIONS

LD241920 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 24 Mar 79 LD

[Leonid Levchenko commentary on Soviet-Thai talks in Moscow]

[Text] The visit to the Soviet Union by Thailand's Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan is a landmark in the history of Soviet-Thai relations. In Moscow, the distinguished guest from Thailand was received by the Soviet Communist Party General Secretary President Leonid Brezhnev, and held talks with Soviet Prime Minister Aleksey Kosygin. They discussed the state of Soviet-Thai relations and the prospects for their development. Both sides expressed their desire to expand and consolidate Soviet-Thai cooperation. Such cooperation serves the interests of both countries. Yet it also has a wider aspect. All the foreign policy activities of the Soviet state are aimed at solving the key problem of the present-day world, that of insuring a lasting peace. This aim is felt by the Soviet Union's developing relations with Thailand and with other developing countries. [sentence as heard]

Thailand is a Southeast Asian country. So it is only a natural that when international problems were examined, special attention was paid to the latest events in that area. Leonid Brezhnev pointed out to Kriangsak Chamanan that the Soviet Union appreciates the efforts of the peoples of that area to consolidate their sovereignty and security. Reliable security in Asia must be based on such principles as the impermissibility of using force or threatening to do so in relations between states. It must be based on strict respect for other countries' independence and sovereignty, the inviolability of borders, noninterference in internal affairs, and the extensive development of economic and other ties on the basis of full equality and mutual benefit.

The countries of Southeast Asia have for a long time been the targets of unbridled actions by outside imperialist forces. The imperialists committed outrages, plundered those countries, and interfered in their domestic affairs. Now this policy has also been adopted by the Beijing rulers who committed aggression against Vietnam, and are harboring expansionist plans regarding a number of other Asian states. Beijing 's joining the most reactionary forces in the area in an attempt to create obstacles aimed at preventing the social and economic progress of the countries which have liberated themselves from colonial and semicolonial oppression.

A case in point is Beijing's support for the reactionary elements opposing the people's revolution in Afghanistan. The peoples cannot accept violence and arbitrary actions, outside interference in their internal affairs, attempts to keep them outside the mainstream of civilisation. The developing countries in their desire to overcome the heritage of the colonial past, to strengthen their independence, and achieve economic and social progress, will always have the support and solidarity of the Soviet Union.

MORE ON FRC-SRV CONFLICT, AGGRESSION AFTERMATH

SRV Statement on June 1977 Memo

LD261658 Moscow TASS in English 1623 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 26, TASS--A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam made a statement today in connection with the publication in Beijing of the memorandum of the Chinese Foreign Ministry handed to the Vietnamese side on June 10th, 1977.

This memorandum, the spokesman recalled, was handed by Li Xiannian, vice-premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, to Pham Van Dong, prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, during their meeting on June 10th, 1977. The memorandum pursues the purpose of fanning up tensions in the relations between the two countries and putting the blame for this on Vietnam.

During the meeting Pham Van Dong fully refuted the China-fabricated slanderous inventions and attacks on Vietnam. The head of the Vietnamese Government stressed that the Chinese side had long since displayed an unfriendly attitude towards Vietnam, repeatedly voiced slanderous fabrications about the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The prime minister also noted that the Vietnamese people prized friendship with the Chinese people very highly and that the Vietnamese side was prepared to resolve together with the Chinese side all the disputes between the two countries through negotiations.

The publication by the Chinese side of this memorandum at the present moment, the statement stresses, has the purpose of misleading Chinese and world public opinion, whitewashing the criminal aggressive war unleashed by the ruling circles of China, which still evokes vigorous protests and condemnation of all progressive mankind.

It is precisely the Chinese leaders who are pursuing a policy of expansionism and great-power hegemonism, the spokesman of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry stressed, that constantly undermine the traditional friendship and solidarity between the peoples of Vietnam and China, go out of their way to aggravate still further the relations between the two countries. They must bear full responsibility for the grave consequences of their unseemly actions. The Vietnamese side intends to publish shortly materials on this question.

Le Duan on PRC's Aims

LD261934 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 26, TASS--The Chinese expansionists have not given up their designs to weaken and eventually annex Vietnam, to create conditions for carrying out expansion in Southeast Asia, stated the general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam CC, Le Duan, during a visit to the port city of Haiphong.

Le Duan stressed the importance of the uninterrupted operation by the Haiphong port for the fulfillment of economic and defence assignments. The general secretary of the CPV CC urged the communists of Haiphong to be the first in work and in defending the motherland.

Rehabilitation Work

LD261614 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 26, TASS--TASS correspondent Viktor Khrekov reports:

"To help the population of border areas in rehabilitating the economy is the cause of every workingman of the country " is the watchword of the movement which has developed in Socialist Vietnam and in which millions of workers and peasants of the republic are taking part. The main task at present is to normalise population's life and to restore production in border provinces to which the Chinese aggressors have done a tremendous material damage.

The whole of the country is rendering assistance to their fellow countrymen in six border provinces. Special attention is devoted to those areas which have suffered the greatest damage. Thus, the working people of Bakthai formed building teams which have already gone to Cao Bang for rehabilitation work. In Ha Son Binh Province special medical teams have been set up and are giving aid to population [words indistinct]. The city's hospital which is accommodated in provisional quarters received the first patients there with the active assistance of the medical personnel from Ha Son Binh. Medical aid stations are being set up again in villages and settlements.

The persistent selfless work by the population of border areas have been marked by the first successes. An important railway section between Lang Son and Ban Thi stations, destroyed by the invaders, has been restored within a record short time. Railway traffic has been resumed on Hanoi-Lang Son railway. The first passenger train brought homecoming population and young builders to Lang Son.

Cao Bang Restoration Work

LD232316 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1558 GMT 23 Mar 79 ID

["Aftermath of Chinese Aggression"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, 23 March--TASS correspondent Viktor Khrekov reports: Cao Bang is one of the northern provinces of Vietnam which suffered most during the Chinese aggression. The Chinese brasshats did immense damage to its economy. All economic installations and the agricultural cooperatives' property were destroyed with methodical consistency, fields were ruined and cattle driven off.

Hundreds of houses, schools and hospitals were turned into ruins. Moreover, the Chinese soldiers, when pulling out, poisoned the wells, sources of drinking water and foodstuffs so as to delay the normalization of the population's life.

But however grave it has been in the tense hours of their trials, the Vietnamese people have set out right away to restore production, ruined enterprises and devastated agricultural lands. The Cao Bang People's Committee has set up a special commission to restore the economy, and groups of various types of specialists have been formed and sent to the stricken areas to work out concrete plans of restorative work.

The transport workers of the province are working intensively. Restoration has already been started of the roads linking mountainous Cao Bang with the plains areas of the republic which have been destroyed by the Chinese. Many sections of the Cao Bang-Ngan Son highway, which has a total length of 64 km and over which traffic has resumed, have been repaired. Local inhabitants who were evacuated during the Chinese aggression are returning to their home hamlets in buses and motor vehicles which have been specially allocated by the people's committee.

[Words indistinct] lessons are being resumed.

The Cao Bang People's Committee is giving peasants help in restoring production. Over the past few days alone cooperatives have been allocated many thousands of tons of seeds of rice and other food crops for sowing, various agricultural machinery and the necessary implements. Hundreds of returned peasants are already out in the fields and intensive work is being done everywhere.

At the same time isolated detachments of Chinese interventionists and diversionary groups of Maoists still remain within the territory of the province. They are attempting to hamper the normalization of the situation.

People's Militia and self-defense detachments are carrying out operations to eliminate the bands of Maoists and to strengthen the border. Beijing's aggression has suffered a defeat, but the threats are continuing. For this reason, displaying high vigilance to all the enemy's intrigues, the population of the border provinces is devoting all its energies to the construction and defense of its socialist homeland.

CAMBODIA'S ROS SAMAY HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN HAVANA

LD231236 Moscow TASS in English 1209 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Havana, March 23, TASS--The Kampuchean people is expressing a deep gratitude to the Soviet Union, Vietnam and other socialist countries for their solidarity with the Kampuchean revolution, Ros Samay, general secretary of the Central Committee of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea (NUFSK), said at a press conference here. The moral and material help by the true friends of Kampuchea have played an important role in the patriotic forces' victory over the sanguinary clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary, and is now a deterrent factor against the aggressive intrigues of the clique's Beijing masters.

Spreading lies and slander about Kampuchea, and allying with the enemies of People's Kampuchea, the Chinese leadership is in the same camp with the forces of reaction and imperialism that are trying to stifle the revolutionary movement all over the world, Ros Samay emphasized.

Dwelling on the country's economic position, he recalled that the adventurist internal policy of the overthrown regime played into the hand of its Maoist patrons that shamelessly plundered Kampuchea's natural wealth. Even fertile soil was taken away to China. There remained not a gram of gold in the country. It is necessary to create and [as received] economic management system practically anew.

The general secretary of the NUFSK Central Committee stressed that the People's Republic of Kampuchea in its foreign policy firmly adheres to the principle of non-alignment and is ready to strengthen friendly contacts and cooperation with all countries of the world.

CAMBODIA'S HUN SEN INVEIGHS AGAINST PRC EXPANSIONISM

LD222222 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 22, TASS--The only problem that now exists in Indochina is that the Chinese authorities are conducting the policy of expansionism and hegemonism with regard to the peoples of Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos, Hun Sen, member of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, responsible for foreign affairs, said in an interview to the Kampuchean news agency.

The Chinese authorities, he said, interfere brazenly in Kampuchea's internal affairs and hamper the country's restoration. They have launched a large-scale aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and are now concentrating troops on the borders with Laos, are invading the Laotian territory and trying to intimidate the Lao People's Democratic Republic, threatening its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The attempts to link the Chinese aggression against Vietnam with the so-called "Kampuchean problem" only encourage Beijing's expansionism. Since the United Nations Security Council is entrusted with the responsibility of preserving peace and security, it must condemn Beijing's expansionist policy and must make it stop interference in internal affairs of Kampuchea and withdraw completely and unconditionally its troops from the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Hun Sen said.

The Soviet Union's resolute and firm position, its support of the just struggle of the Kampuchean, Vietnamese and Lao peoples against imperialism and forces of international reaction is highly appreciated by the people of Kampuchea, he said in conclusion.

BRUTALITIES, GENOCIDE IN CAMBODIA UNDER POL POT NOTED

Atrocities Described

LD222208 Moscow TASS in English 2122 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 22, TASS--If the uprising started somewhat later, all the population of our village would have been exterminated, Teanath Bath, 40, told correspondents of the Kampuchean news agency. More than two thousand people lived in his native village of Trapeangh Chukh, populated by the national minority Chams.

Only five families remain alive there now. It is in this way that the bloody regime of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary intended to "purify and invigorate the nation", Teanat Bath said. The murderers intended to destroy other people in the village and the 100 families that they drove from Phnom Penh, but the sudden offensive of the fighters of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation put them to flight and prevented them from implementing their horrible plan.

The Pol Pot soldiers burned down all books. A person suspected of keeping books was killed on the spot. The 20-year old Khnan Yar said that people were usually killed with hacks and sickles. This is how his mother, father and seven brothers and sisters were killed. Sometimes a condemned person was made to take poison. The person was told that this is a "prophylactic" against fever and upon taking the poison died in great pain. Khnan Yar said he was sent to a camp. He concealed his origin and gave a different name. Only this saved him from imminent death.

After the village was liberated, Khmers and Chams jointly elected self-government bodies and started building tranquil life, said Diengh Seangh, a citizen of Trapeangh Chukh village. But remnants of the Pol Pot gangs supported by Chinese patrons continue their piratic operations in some areas. Therefore a self-defence unit was formed in the village. We paid too great a price for freedom and independence and we shall not allow anyone to encroach on them again, he said.

U.S. Cambodian Reports

LD231350 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 23, TASS--Ever new facts are becoming known here of the terrible crimes perpetrated by the dictatorship of Beijing's placemen--Pol Pot and Ieng Sary. The country is freeing itself from the fetters of fear that the butchers tried to impose on the Kampuchean people in accordance with Maoist tenets. On realising that the reign of terror and lawlessness is over, people of town and countryside are offering ever more information about the crimes committed by the reactionary administration of the overthrown regime.

Peasants of the Tiam nationality told with grief a correspondent of the Kampuchean information agency that all the inhabitants of the Trapeanghuk village in Kompong Thom Province were settled in the mountains in the north of the country and most of them perished from back-breaking work and diseases.

The few who survived and returned home discovered with horror that their village was turned by Pol Pot's men into a place for mass executions. Thousands of corpses of brutality killed townspeople driven out of Phnom Penh were discovered in the fields and reservoirs.

Washington, March 23, TASS--Assistant to the secretary of state of the United States for affairs of East Asia and the Pacific R. Holbrook was forced to admit today that the remnants of bands connected with the Pol Pot regime, that was overthrown by the people of Kampuchea, were continuing to commit brutalities against that country's population. Addressing the Subcommittee for Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Committee for Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, he said that the Pol Pot forces were displaying the same senseless disregard for the life and destiny of man as it was when the Pol Pot regime was in power in Phnom Penh and controlled the country. We have information about mass murders of villagers during raids by Pol Pot's bands, he went on.

DAILY WORLD Correspondent's Dispatch

LD242037 Moscow TASS in English 2015 GMT 24 Mar 79 LD

["Fruits of the Policy of Genocide"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, March 24, TASS--T. Cannon, a correspondent of the DAILY WORLD writes in his dispatch from Kampuchea that Phnom Penh used to be one of the most beautiful cities in Asia. But the picture was quite different under the Pol Pot regime--streets without names, libraries without books, houses without peoples, hospitals without medicines and schools turned into torture centres.

This city fell victim to one of the most barbarous mass campaigns ever launched by a dictatorial regime against the people of its own country. During four years of his dictatorial rule the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime tried to wipe all signs of civilisation off the face of the earth in Kampuchea. The doors of empty houses and shops were left open. All the city population of three million was driven away immediately after Pol Pot's hordes entered the capital of Kampuchea in April, 1975.

The anti-popular regime of Beijing's placemen set itself the aim of turning the capital into a ghost city. Everything needed for the life of a modern city was consistently destroyed. After the people of Phnom Penh were herded into concentration camps, practically nothing remained in the city, apart from a number of governmental institutions of the regime, several embassies, hotels for foreigners and some enterprises serving the regime and its Beijing masters.

In this picture of general desolation, there stands out the building of the Beijing Embassy which was the centre of activity of over 20,000 Chinese "advisers" who fled here in January under pressure from the national liberation forces. The walls in its rooms are hung with works of art, the floors are covered with luxurious carpets and the rooms are full of expensive furniture.

In a hurry, the fleeing Chinese left in the embassy an expensive Western two-volume publication with a description of Adolf Hitler's life.

It was perhaps to "recipes" borrowed from this book that millions of Kampuchians were destroyed or worked to death.

Now the Kampuchean capital is gradually coming back to life. The power supply system was restored 20 per cent. The regime destroyed all the books in the city and in the country, except, perhaps, for the one left in the Chinese Embassy.

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The rest of the country is returning back to life with equal difficulty. The national economy was fully destroyed by Beijing's henchmen. It will take years of work and mass efforts by those, who lived through the horrors of genocide, in order to bring the liberated Kampuchea back into modern times, the American journalist said in his dispatch.

AID FOR CAMBODIANS ARRIVES BY AEROFLOT IN PHNOM PENH

LD261548 Moscow TASS in English 1446 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 26, TASS--An Aeroflot plane that arrived here brought material aid to the Kampuchean people suffering from the aftermaths of the rule by the puppet regime. The gift includes fabrics, medicines and foodstuffs purchased on money donated by the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Soviet Peace Fund and the AUCCTU.

At the airport the delegation of the Soviet public, headed by First Deputy Chairman of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee A.S. Dzasokhov, presented the gift to representatives of the Kampuchean people. On behalf of the public of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, representatives of the People's Revolutionary Council and the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea expressed sincere gratitude to the communist party, government and the people of the Soviet Union for their principled and consistent support of the Kampuchean people's struggle, against the reactionary pro-Beijing clique, for all-round assistance in the building of new Kampuchea.

The Soviet delegation was received by Deputy Chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea responsible for defence Pen Sovan. He expressed sincere gratitude to the entire Soviet people for the aid and support to the Kampuchean people's revolutionary struggle.

Pen Sovan stressed that the victory over the reactionary pro-Beijing clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary was scored owing to support and solidarity by the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community.

Soviet Red Cross Supplies

LD261429 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Aid Gratis"]

[Text] Medicines and foodstuffs were dispatched to Phnom Penh on 22 March on a special Aeroflot flight. The USSR Union of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, loyal to the principles of humanism and internationalist solidarity, decided to render assistance free of charge to the population of Kampuchea, who have suffered as a result of the antipopular policy of the reactionary, pro-Beijing regime.

HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS, RAILROADS REOPEN IN CAMBODIA

LD251756 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 25 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 25, TASS--The working people of the People's Republic of Kampuchea actively participate in setting up local government bodies. More than 1,100 people's self-government committees have been set up in the country. The committees consist of people who won love and respect of citizens through their honesty, patriotism and hatred for Beijing's puppets.

One of the chief tasks of the local government bodies is to reunite the families broken apart by the fascist regime of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary. The people's revolutionary committees have already helped hundreds of thousands of people to return to their native places. Hospital 38 in Phnom Penh and two polyclinics in the capital's province of Kandal started functioning.

After a four-year interval primary schools reopened in almost all the villages and settlements of the country.

Great efforts were required to restore the provision of such cities as Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, and Kompong Thom with water and electricity.

Railway traffic was resumed on the Phnom Penh-Battambang railway line. This became possible after the rehabilitation of the destroyed 70-kilometre-long section of the railway between Sisophon and Battambang, Kampuchea's second-largest city in the country's northwest.

Simultaneously with the formation of local government bodies, much attention is being given to strengthening national defence. Thousands of young people voluntarily join the regular revolutionary army. Besides, self-defence detachments are being set up everywhere. In those detachments citizens undergo military training under the experienced direction of the commanders of the liberation armed forces. Self-defence detachments participate in operations to eliminate the remains of Pol Pot bands.

INDONESIAN AGENCY REPORTS ACTIVITIES OF OVERSEAS CHINESE

LD231340 Moscow TASS in English 1316 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Jakarta, March 23, TASS--The Indonesian agency PAB has circulated a report about the subversive activities of the Overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia. The Overseas Chinese, the so-called Huaqiao, carry out their subversive activities on instructions from Beijing and pose a big threat to member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian nations.

The Huaqiao often undergo preliminary training in the PRC. It is known that specially trained detachments of Huaqiao performed "special assignments" during China's attack on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Acting like Hitler's SS-men during the Second World War they killed the peaceful population, destroyed schools, hospitals, industrial enterprises and housing.

Among the criminal actions perpetrated by pro-Beijing Overseas Chinese in various countries of Southeast Asia are political murders and abductions of high-placed government officials.

The Overseas Chinese living in these countries, the report says further, are a potential source of growing tension in the region. Specialists say that only a few days are needed to work chaos in the economy of such countries as Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines. And this is the ultimate aim of the Beijing leadership that is using the Huaqiao (Overseas Chinese) for purposes of its expansionist policy.

KIRILLIN RECEIVES THAI DEPUTY PREMIER 22 MARCH

LD261439 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] On 22 March V.A. Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, received Thai Deputy Prime Minister S. Hongladarom. During the conversation questions connected with the development of scientific, technical and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Thailand were discussed.

DETAILS OF BULGARIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS REPORTED

LD262200 Moscow TASS in English 2100 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Sofia, March 26, TASS--The results of yesterday's elections to the local government bodies of Bulgaria were issued here.

Taking part in the polling were 6,443,438 people or 99.95 percent of all registered voters. An overwhelming majority of the electorate voted for the candidates of the Fatherland Front which unites the Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP), the Bulgarian Agrarian People's Union (BAPU), and other mass public organisations.

Among those whom the people entrusted with representing them in the local government bodies, about 56 percent are members of the BCP, 17.5 percent are members of the BAPU, and over 26 percent are non-party people.

The elections became a vivid manifestation of socialist democracy, the monolithic unity of the Bulgarian people, and their solidarity in support of the BCP.

BAYBAKOV RECEIVES GDR COUNTERPART IN MOSCOW

LD221121 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Friendly Talk"]

[Text] On 20 March N.K. Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan, received G. Schuerer, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and chairman of the GDR State Planning Commission, who is in Moscow. Questions connected with the coordination of national economic plans for 1981-1985 between the USSR and the GDR were discussed during the warm, friendly talk which took place.

H. Ott, GDR ambassador to the USSR, took part in the talk.

YUGOSLAV YOUTH DELEGATION VISITS USSR 19-23 MARCH

LD232204 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

[Text] At the invitation of the Central Committee of the all-union Leninist Komsomol, a delegation of the Socialist Youth Federation of Yugoslavia [SSOJ], led by Vasil Tupurkovski, vice president of the SSOJ conference, visited the Soviet Union from 19 to 23 March. The delegation had meetings and talks at the Central Committee of the Komsomol in which it discussed issues of bilateral cooperation and of the international youth movement. Members of the delegation were received by Boris Pastukhov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Komsomol; Secretary of the Central Committee of the Leninist Komsomol Vadim Vagif Guseynov; and Chairman of the Committee of Youth Organizations of the Soviet Union Gennadiy Yanayev. The Yugoslav guests laid wreaths on the tomb of the unknown soldiers and at the Lenin Mausoleum.

The Yugoslav youth delegation also visited, in addition to Moscow, Minsk, the capital of Soviet Belorussia, where it had meetings at the Central Committee of the Komsomol of that republic and at the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belorussia. The guests visited the museum of the First Congress of the Russian Social Democrat Workers' Party, the museum of the Great Patriotic War and the Khatyn Memorial.

This evening the SSOJ delegation flew home.

DETENTE POTENTIAL OF USSR-FRENCH TIES 'FAR FROM EXHAUSTED'

LD270931 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[E. Arsenyev article: "USSR-France: Traditions of Cooperation"]

[Text] Friendship between the Soviet and French peoples and Soviet-French cooperation have successfully stood the test of time.

At the most difficult moments--at the dawn of Soviet power or in the years of World War II, and later in the "cold war" period--the friendship and solidarity between our peoples have been authoritatively and resolutely declared, despite all hostile forces.

The French working class warmly welcomed the Great October Socialist Revolution and launched a campaign of active solidarity with the young land of the soviets. Marcel Cachin, who visited Lenin in Moscow, called on the French working class without hesitation to "stand alongside the great Russian revolution, which is at present time the world's main stronghold against imperialism."

The sources of Soviet-French friendship lie in our two countries' mutual demand for rapprochement and cooperation and in the historical need for this cooperation, which meets with the support of both countries' peoples.

Their good relations are based on the significant coincidence of the two countries' fundamental national interests, which has been confirmed more than once at the sharp turns of history.

This was the case in the years of World War II when, despite the defeatist policy of their country's ruling circles, French patriots with the most diverse political convictions took up arms together with the Soviet Union to crush the common enemy--fascism.

Our peoples' combat friendship and cooperation helped not only to liberate France from the fascist occupiers. They also helped it to regain its status as a great power and to participate fully in the postwar structure of the world.

Soviet people have always wanted to see France strong and independent. As early as 26 September 1941 the Soviet Union acknowledged General de Gaulle to be the "leader of all free French people, wherever they may be," and later established close cooperation with him. De Gaulle in turn was well aware of the vital importance for France's future of friendly ties with the Soviet Union.

Friendly Soviet-French relations accord fully with present and future interests. The Soviet people place a high value on the French people's desire for an independent policy and on their contribution to the struggle for detente and peace. In the last 30 years much has changed for the better in Europe, and this has been promoted to a considerable extent by the Soviet Union and France. As before, the Soviet and French peoples' vital interests coincide and form a good basis for long-term, mutually advantageous cooperation between our two countries and peoples.

This cooperation embraces a wide range of key international problems and is directed above all at transforming Europe into a continent of peace and security and excluding war from the people's life. It is important that both countries regard detente as one of the main foundations of their actions in Europe and throughout the world. The French people, no less than other peoples, have an interest in ending the conventional and nuclear arms race, in disarmament and in reducing the burden of military expenditure.

The movement against the production of neutron weapons and their deployment in West European countries is expanding in France. French supporters of peace advocate that France display a more constructive approach to disarmament problems.

French democratic forces condemn the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. They demand that it be ended and that military deliveries to Beijing be prevented.

All these are topical, burning issues which affect all people of good will. Soviet people extend the hand of friendship and cooperation to all European peoples. But they do not forget that the USSR and France were at the source of detente and that Soviet-French cooperation could play a more dynamic role in insuring security in Europe, and not only in Europe, its potential in the cause of the struggle for peace, detente and disarmament is far from exhausted.

The meetings and talks between the leaders of the USSR and France at the highest level are landmarks in the development of good relations between our countries and peoples. As is known, the next meeting and talks between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing are to take place in Moscow at the end of March.

"We attach special significance to the growing contacts between our peoples, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said, "because we see in them an important guarantee of the firmness and depth of the great shifts which have taken place in Soviet-French relations in the last 10 years."

Contacts between our peoples are becoming closer and more regular. Tourist trips, active cultural ties, the exchange of scientific and technical experience and delegations, contacts between public and political organizations--all this and much more is creating a lasting material fabric of Soviet-French friendship.

Mutual economic and trade ties are expanding. Big Soviet orders from France systematically provide work for many thousands of French working people, and in the Soviet Union industrial complexes are being constructed with French technical assistance. Economic ties are based on long-term foundations, which insure their stability.

The Soviet people, who are convinced internationalists, have always been noted for their attitude of respect toward other countries' peoples and their concerns and interests. The French people's love of their motherland, their freedom-loving spirit, their profound revolutionary and democratic traditions, their outstanding contribution to the development of world culture, science and technology--all this, which has continued through all the vicissitudes of history, arouses sincere sympathy and respect among Soviet people.

Soviet-French friendship is relatively lasting and stable and does not need to be embellished and idealized. There have been and still are many obstacles along the path of developing friendly relations between our countries--sometimes objective obstacles, but mainly subjective obstacles created by the opponents of detente and Franco-Soviet friendship.

But the profound mutual sympathy and respect of the Soviet and French peoples and faith in the historical necessity for cooperation between our countries help to overcome the obstacles which arise.

Relying on deep historical traditions and on our peoples' identity of interests in the struggle for peace and detente, Soviet-French friendship has become a constant, stable factor for peace and security in Europe and throughout the world.

POLARIZATION SEEN IN FRG BUNDESTAG DETENTE DEBATE

LD261153 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Grigoryants report: "Imaginary and Real Threats"]

[Text] Bonn--A debate on questions of security and disarmament policy was held recently in the West German Bundestag. There was a discussion of the Pentagon's plans to emplace in Western Europe and above all on FRG territory, in addition to the U.S. forward-based weapons already here, the so-called "Eurostrategic" weapon--modernized Pershing missiles, cruise missiles and neutron bombs aimed against the Soviet Union.

Is the FRG aware of all the consequences of these plans? Undoubtedly it is. It is no accident that Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's election speech stressing that the implementation of the U.S. military's plans, like its intrigues with respect to neutron weapons, would only lead to a new rise in tension in Europe and a new surge in the arms race attracted such close attention on the Rhine.

The lengthy reply from the Federal Government to the inquiry from the parliamentary factions of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, the Free Democratic Party and the Christian Democratic Union-Christian Social Union [CDU-CSU] which served at the basis for the Bundestag debate stresses that the prevention of war is the central task of Bonn's security policy. The FRG is vitally interested in the success of this policy. The document then states that the Federal Government attaches great significance to dialog with the socialist states. The talks held during L.I. Brezhnev's visit to the FRG last May serve as particularly graphic confirmation of its usefulness.

At the same time the reply to the parliamentary factions' inquiry reflects a certain ambiguity in Bonn's positions on questions of military detente. The document cites the unsound thesis that the growth of the Warsaw Pact countries' military potential "exceeds the requirements of their own defense" and sees a supposed threat to the Western alliance in the form of the Soviet arsenal of medium-range missiles, although it does admit that an overall comparison of the nuclear potentials of East and West "gives no grounds for fearing any direct military threat."

But the facts and figures cited in this document do reveal objectively an alarming picture of NATO military preparations. As for the FRG, as the government's answer attests, in 1979 it will rank second after the United States within NATO in terms of military expenditure as a whole, on a per capita basis and in terms of the share of military expenditure in the overall state budget. It should be added that these are considerable sums, amounting to almost DM40 billion a year. In any event, the FRG is most eagerly fulfilling the NATO council Washington session decisions on the modernization and buildup of armaments. This and a number of other facts, in particular West German diplomacy's line at the Vienna talks, confirm the idea of contradictoriness in the official circles' position.

The consistency and fluctuations are particularly marked in the urgent issue of how to react to the demands of the Pentagon, which is seeking to turn the FRG's territory into a sort of launchpad for "Eurostrategic" weapons. The government's position is this: The FRG will not be NATO's first and only ally to agree to the deployment and emplacement of new weapons systems on its territory. In other words, Bonn does not want to agree to the location of medium-range missiles on West European territory alone.

The duality of this position plays into the hands of the die-hards in the opposition camp, which wants to notify Washington as soon as possible of its readiness to admit new types of U.S. weapons to the FRG and thus persuade other NATO countries which are still hesitating. It continues to hope that a "technical breakthrough" which will give NATO at least a temporary military superiority will make it possible, with the aid of threats and pressure, to achieve one-sided concessions from the socialist countries to the benefit of the West.

Of course, in our day an overt appeal for armament will meet with no response. The idea of disarmament is becoming increasingly attractive to millions of people, including people in West Germany. Speculating on this, rightist circles have advanced the following formula: Anyone who wants disarmament must initially concern himself with armament. To what end? To achieve parity, they say. This formula essentially means abandoning disarmament and launching a new phase of competition in stockpiling weapons. As a result the present balance of forces can only be upset.

As L.I. Brezhnev stressed in his election speech, the Soviet Union "stands not for the buildup but for the limitation of nuclear missile and other weapons by means of an agreement by the sides on the basis of full reciprocity. This also concerns medium-range weapons in Europe--bearing in mind, of course, the presence of the U.S. bases there."

But the rightwing forces are continuing to have it their own way. Enjoying the services of a considerable section of the local press, they want to arouse among the public a feeling of mistrust with respect to Soviet foreign policy.

A FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU observer reasonably notes that "the public is being informed in a one-sided manner." The real correlation of forces is being distorted. This is being done deliberately. Not a word is being said about the U.S. cruise missiles, about the nuclear potential of Britain and France, about the increase in the range of the Pershing missiles, about the 7,000 nuclear warheads which the Pentagon has emplaced in Western Europe, or about the U.S. submarine-based Poseidon and Polaris missiles.

Aware that there are few people in the FRG who will now believe in the reality of the threat of a military attack from the East, the cold war troubadours have recently embarked on renovating the myth of the "Soviet threat." But the new Soviet initiative--the idea of concluding a nonaggression pact between the states which took part in the all-European conference--refutes the fabrications of detente's opponents. The Soviet Union suggests reinforcing on the plane of international law the principle of renouncing the use or threat of force. This would apply to both nuclear and conventional weapons.

The 2-day discussions in the Bundestag demonstrated a further polarization of forces. Representatives of the government coalition stressed that the policy of relaxation of tension has justified itself and strengthened the security of the FRG and all Europe, and expressed themselves in favor of disarmament talks. The speakers from the CDU and CSU opposition parties, however, used the parliamentary rostrum for attacks against the process of detente and for sallies of an intolerable tone and essence against the Soviet Union's policy. The debates reaffirmed that the CDU and CSU are doing everything to poison the atmosphere in the country with a spirit of mistrust and hatred toward the Soviet Union and to resurrect the times of alienation and confrontation between our countries.

So the Born parliament debate has ended, but the debate in the country continues to gather strength. The anxiety of many FRG citizens for the future of detente is understandable. A group of eminent figures, scientists, writers, artists and trade union workers recently appealed to the public to begin preparation for International Peace Day--1 September 1979--and to mark the 40th anniversary of the beginning of World War II with mass meetings and demonstrations under slogans of struggle for disarmament.

The statements by the government coalition resolutely opposing the FRG's transformation into a nuclear weapons testing ground have attracted attention. These statements reflect the desire of considerable forces in the ranks of the government coalition, and above all the Social Democrats, to reinforce the process of detente and extend it to the military sphere. The reaction to these statements from the opposition parties confirms that the resistance promises to be keen.

EFFORTS TO BRING GREECE BACK INTO NATO CITED

ID261445 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 79 p 5 LD

[Vladislav Brobkov Athens dispatch--"Atlantic Hunksters"]

[Text] As has become known in Athens, the U.S. President sent a special message to the prime ministers of Greece and Turkey at the beginning of this month. The message concerned the return of Greece to NATO's military organization, which has long been energetically sought by the Pentagon and the North Atlantic bloc.

A representative of the Greek Government who admitted that the American message had been received refused to tell of its details. However, it is already clear that the United States and NATO are beginning a new round of political and other pressure in order to patch the breach in the bloc's southeastern flank which was caused by Athens' withdrawal from NATO's military organization in 1974. Moreover, it is clear from reports in the press here that Washington intends to intensify its military presence in this region and to extend U.S. and NATO bases and establishments in Greece and Turkey in order to compensate for the loss of strong points in Iran.

The insistent Atlantic inviters are using the old arsenal of means of persuasion--from promises of economic and military aid to blatant arm twisting. The discussions which have begun in the U.S. Congress about the plan to grant Athens and Ankara arms in the new year valued at \$160 million and \$300 million respectively, giving economic support to Turkey and talks on the conditions for Turkey's entry into the Common Market are being made directly dependent by Athens' and Ankara's Western partners on their readiness to give way to NATO's importuning.

General Haig, NATO supreme allied commander Europe, recently held a series of meetings with representatives of the Greek Armed Forces and with Turkish statesmen and tried to put pressure on Ankara. The actions of the United States and NATO seriously worry the Greek public. Papandreou, leader of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement, has called on the government not to make any concessions to the North Atlantic bloc. The Greek communist paper RIZOSPASTIS also sharply condemns the new importuning of the Atlanticists and calls for the cohesion of all progressive forces for the struggle against the country's being drawn into the NATO harness again.

The attempts of the North Atlantic bloc to strengthen and extend its positions in the Mediterranean Sea create a threat to the peace and security of the states situated there. They radically contradict the interests of the Mediterranean peoples.

U.S. TO HOLD MILITARY EXERCISES IN GREECE

ID242040 Moscow TASS in English 2024 GMT 24 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Athens, March 24, TASS--American land forces are to hold exercises in South Peloponnesus from March 26 to April 1. This was announced by the Greek Ministry of National Defence. The exercises are also to involve the Greek Armed Forces.

REACTION TO COMMENT ON EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TREATY SIGNING

Signing of Agreement

LD262008 Moscow TASS in English 1952 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

["Act of Capitulation and Treason"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, March 26, TASS--The separate Egyptian-Israeli "peace" treaty was signed today at the White House in the presence of numerous distinguished guests in a pompous atmosphere. The U.S. administration, resorting to its powerful propaganda apparatus, is endeavoring to present the conclusion of this anti-Arab deal as an "historic event".

The sharply negative reaction to the treaty in the Arab world proves without doubt that taking place in Washington is a collusion of the forces of imperialism and Zionism, spearheaded against the Arabs. Familiarization with the text of the treaty, and also the supplements to it, leaves no doubt that it will deal a blow at the interests of all the Arab nations without exception.

This treaty is, first and foremost, hostile to the Arab people of Palestine. Completely ignoring the interests of the Palestinians, the separate deal gives Israel at the same time a free hand to "solve" the Palestinian problem in Zionism fashion, i.e. by consolidating the occupation of the Arab lands and wholesale annihilation of Palestinians in southern Lebanon.

Having bargained Israel out for a withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula, As-Sadat paid for Tel Aviv's "concession" by agreeing, in fact, to the annexation by Israel of other Arab territories seized by the Israeli militarists. As-Sadat's capitulation actually leaves in Israel's hands the Golan Heights, the Western Bank of the Jordan River, the Arab part of Jerusalem, and finally, the Gaza Strip, where Israeli military presence will also be preserved.

Washington intends to use the Egyptian-Israeli treaty for legally perpetuating its military presence in the Middle East. With this purpose in view the U.S. plans to create a new military-police structure based on the Tel Aviv-Cairo axis. Agreement has been reached to place war bases in the Sinai Peninsula under U.S. control. American military advisers will be additionally sent to Israel and Egypt.

At the present time the United States is exerting increasing pressure on the so-called "moderate" Arab states, trying to make them back the separate deal. Israel has joined the campaign of grossly blackmailing the countries of this region. In an interview recently published by the magazine TIME, the Israeli Premier Begin threateningly warned Saudi Arabia that it "should behave properly."

All this does not mean, of course, that the treaty has no supporters. As reported by the press, the anti-Arab deal has been fully backed by J. Luns, the NATO general secretary, who hastened to inform the U.S. President about this.

An identical stand was taken also by the Chinese leaders. The weekly MIDDLE EAST REPORTER, which comes out in Beirut, points out that China intends to establish diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv shortly after the conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli deal. It is noted in the Arab political circles, the weekly says, that this step of Beijing will be "perfectly logical" after it had backed As-Sadat's so-called "peace initiative" and all the steps of the Egyptian leader following that.

Losev on Treaty Weaknesses

LD270102 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Sergey Losev commentary]

[Text] The separate treaty signed between Egypt and Israel in Washington today will bring neither peace nor tranquility to the Middle East. The architect of the deal, the United States, and its immediate participants, the As-Sadat regime and the Begin government, are well aware of this, although they are claiming the opposite. For a time, Egypt will find itself outside the Arab front opposing Israeli aggression. The treaty will lead to a gradual pullout of Israeli troops from Sinai to positions close to vital Israeli centers. However, nobody can tell how long the As-Sadat regime will remain in power or what the new regime's attitude toward Israel will be.

It is noteworthy in this connection that quite recently the CIA was predicting the dynasty in Iran would firmly remain in power at least until the mid-1980's.

The main failure of the treaty lies in the fact that it can do nothing to solve the crucial problems underlying the Arab-Israeli conflict. Nobody can be deluded by the claim of the architect of the deal that it represents a major step toward a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis. By agreeing to sign the treaty As-Sadat has in effect agreed to give his blessing to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank of Jordan, the Gaza Strip, the old part of Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.

Prime Minister Begin has told the Knesset that Israel will never return to the armistice lines before 1967 and will never allow the establishment of an independent Arab Palestinian state. Will the Arab world ever be able to reconcile itself to this state of affairs?

President Carter has suggested the establishment of direct contact between the United States and the Palestine Liberation Organization in a bid to head off the wave of protests in the Arab world. He made it clear that as a preliminary condition the PLO should recognize the existence of Israel as a nation and the Security Council resolution of 22 November 1967. Significantly, the head of the U.S. administration does not have the slightest intention of demanding that the Israeli Government recognize the right of the Palestinian Arabs to self-determination and independent existence--a right recognized by a 1949 UN resolution and supported by the United States.

The American administration is fully aware of the position of the present Israeli Government, which totally rejects the right of the Palestinian Arabs to independent existence and development and their right to statehood. The Israeli Government is engaged in a total war against the PLO, killing its leaders.

The American taxpayer is far from being indifferent to the financial side of the deal. The United States was to supply Iran with \$17-20 billion worth of arms in the past few years, but the supplies were largely repaid by Iran itself from its oil revenues. Now the proposed vast program of financial, economic and military aid to Israel and Egypt will be totally financed by the U.S. treasury, that is to say, by the American taxpayer.

According to expert forecasts, this aid will amount to up to \$4 billion a year. In return, the Pentagon would like to reinforce its positions in the Arab world. It wants Israel and Egypt to take over from the shah regime as the policemen of the Middle East. It looks as though Washington's policymakers have learned nothing from the events in Iran.

For its part, the Soviet Union obviously cannot remain indifferent to events in a region in the immediate vicinity of its borders.

It has a sincere desire to see a real, rather than illusory, peace in the Middle East. It was again stressed in the course of the talks Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko has just ended Damascus that such a peace can only be achieved on the basis of a total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, recognition of the right of the Palestinian Arabs to establish an independent state and recognition of the right of all nations in the region to independent existence and development.

'Neither Good Nor Peace'

LD240945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 79 p 5 ID

[P. Alekseyev "Rejoinder" : "An Unattractive Kind of Peace!"]

[Text] Moscow, March 24, TASS--According to Israeli Defence Minister Weizman, the USA after the planned conclusion of an Israeli-Egyptian separate treaty is to grant about \$3 billion to Tel Aviv mainly for financing the construction of two new air bases. Besides, large deliveries of various American armament to Israel will be continued. Washington, according to the New York TIMES, already agreed to supply the Israeli Army with 200 tanks, 800 armored personnel carriers, many artillery and rocket weapons.

For its part, Egyptian Defense Minister 'Ali stated that the USA is offering to his country \$2.5 billion--a 'too inconsiderable' sum--as aid after the signing of the above mentioned treaty. The point is that the list of Egyptian wishes which was submitted to Washington and which is reported by the U.S. DAILY NEWS, presupposes more considerable appropriations. The Egyptian list includes 300 F-16 supersonic fighters, anti-aircraft 'Hawk' missiles, 600 tanks, a large number of armored personnel carriers, warships and submarines.

One, perhaps, will not find a parallel in history when the conclusion of a peace treaty would be accompanied with the development of such an arms race. And all this occurs in the already explosive Middle East! No, such a 'cornerstone of a Middle East settlement,' as the separate deal is being cynically publicised by its participants, will not bring either good or peace."

Arabs 'Fully Determined' in Opposition

LD270957 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[Yu. Glukhov article: "No To the Separate Deal"]

[Text] The nearer the day of the signing of the U.S.-inspired Egyptian-Israeli separate treaty comes, the broader the protest movement against the new imperialist conspiracy in the Near East becomes in the Arab and other countries.

Noting the futility of the attempts by imperialism and Zionism to foist capitulation on the Arab peoples, President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria has declared that the separate peace between Cairo and Tel Aviv is not even worth the paper it will be written on. President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria has reaffirmed his country's loyalty to its commitments regarding the Palestinian people's just struggle to insure their legitimate national rights, including the right to self-determination and to create their own independent state.

According to Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, the separate Egyptian-Israeli compact reached under U.S. patronage is aimed at perpetuating the Israeli occupation of Arab lands and at depriving the Palestinian Arab people of their inalienable right to self-determination. It is a challenge to the UN decisions on the Near East. U.S. imperialist interests in the region run counter to the Arab peoples' aspirations.

People like As-Sadat, S. Husayn, deputy chairman of Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council, has declared, are leading the Egyptian people in a direction which runs counter to the Arab nation's interests and to the struggle against its enemies and for the preservation of national pride and sovereignty.

Ayatollah Khomeyni has sharply criticized the separate deal. Iran, he noted in his message to the nation, regards the Egyptian-Israeli treaty as a betrayal by As-Sadat of the Arab peoples' interests. The Egyptian president has demonstrated his total dependence on American imperialism. Iran displays solidarity with the Arabs' just struggle against the Israeli aggression.

Iraq and Syria have suggested holding two conferences in Baghdad--one at foreign-minister level and the other at the level of foreign and finance ministers [sentence as published]. Their aim is to implement the Baghdad summit conference's resolutions on applying economic and political sanctions against Egypt.

The slippery path of separate deals is also rejected by Arab countries such as Jordan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. King Husayn of Jordan has ruled out the possibility of his country joining in the Egyptian-Israeli separate talks, despite the "arm-twisting" tactics by the United States.

As AFP reports, the Kuwaiti Government has ordered the Ministry of Finance to cease giving financial aid to Egypt as soon as the separate treaty with Israel is signed. Britain's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH points out the possibility of the oil-producing Arab states' withdrawing from banks in Cairo deposits totaling 1 billion pounds sterling. Other measures against Egypt include expelling it from the Arab League and transferring the league headquarters from Cairo.

A mass protest movement against the Egyptian-Israeli separate treaty has developed in the Arab territories occupied by Israel. Demonstrations and strikes are being held in the West Bank and the Gaza strip. Weapons are being used to suppress them. A curfew is in force almost round the clock in many population centers.

Mayor of Gaza R. ash-Shawwa has resolutely rejected the plan for so-called "administrative autonomy" which the parties to the separate deal are attempting to foist on the Palestinian Arabs in order to camouflage the perpetuation of the Israeli occupation. We have already named the PLO as our sole representative, and our choice is final, he declared.

Representatives of the National Progressive Party and a number of other sociopolitical groupings are opposing the separate deal with Israel with Egypt.

The Arab peoples are fully determined to oppose the dangerous new intrigues of imperialism, Zionism and reaction in the Near East.

Jordanian Government Statement

LD261154 Moscow TASS in English 1144 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Amman, March 26 TASS--Jordan resolutely rejects the separate Egyptian-Israeli "peace" treaty, says the statement issued here by the Jordanian Government.

The Jordanian Government announced in this connection a stop for one hour of work at all the government and private institutions and companies--from 11 to 12 o'clock today.

In face of the conspiracy against the Arab nation and the general Arab cause, the statement points out, the Jordanian Government stresses the importance of strengthening national unity and consolidating the Arab ranks as a weapon for defeating the enemies.

We know, the statement goes on to note, that the dark clouds that have gathered over the land of our brothers will inevitably be scattered. This will happen due to understanding and awareness of what is going on by the people of Egypt, due to the staunchness of the people in the occupied territories, the unity of the whole people in face of the conspiracies aimed at sidetracking the Arabs from the right course.

The Jordanian Government reaffirms that it will further follow the road outlined by the Arab leaders with the aim of frustrating capitulatory plans. The Jordanian Government calls upon all the sections of the population and all the Arab countries for further making efforts for support and consolidation of the Front for the Steadfastness and Confrontation, the statement says in conclusion.

General Strike in Occupied Territories

LD261456 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Amman, March 26, TASS--The Arab population's general strike in the Israel-occupied Arab territories paralysed life in Gaza Sector, in the Western Bank of the Jordan and in East Jerusalem. All shops, schools and various institutions are closed. The strike is being held in token of protest against the capitulatory Egyptian-Israeli deal which fully ignores the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine. For fear of wide-scale action by the people, the occupation authorities surrounded many towns and populated localities by troops and units of security forces.

King Husayn in Baghdad

LD270926 Moscow TASS in English 0910 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 27, TASS--King Husayn of Jordan arrived here on an official visit for talks with the Iraqi leaders on steps to counter the Egyptian-Israeli separate deal. Before going to Baghdad, King Husayn had visited Damascus, where he discussed the same problems with Syrian officials.

COMMENT, REPORTAGE ON SITUATION IN IRAN CONTINUE

Khomeyni on Forthcoming Referendum

LD261528 Moscow TASS in English 1449 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, March 26, TASS--The preparation for the referendum on the future state structure of Iran planned for March 30 is now being concluded. The referendum's aim is to formalize legally the liquidation of the Iranian monarchy that existed for two and a half millennia.

Addressing the nation, Ayatollah Khomeyni declared that the referendum will sum up the results of the Iranian people's struggle over many centuries against the despotic shah's regime and will consolidate the victory of the Islamic revolution. He urged all Iranians to do their national duty and to participate actively in the coming voting. Khomeyni emphasized the need for high vigilance during the holding of this important measure so as to frustrate possible provocations of the enemies of the revolution.

The Iranian authorities continue finding out and putting on trial supporters of the shah's regime who committed grievous crimes against the people. Radio Tehran reported that the trial of 27 functionaries of the monarchist regime, among them nine generals who held high commanding posts during the shah's rule, will be held soon. The revolutionary tribunal announced that all agents of the former secret police SAVAK and officers of the shah's guards who do not surrender before March 29 the fire arms kept illegally will be regarded as counterrevolutionary elements and will be severely punished.

Sanandaj Situation

LD262208 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Today's PRAVDA carries the following statement by a TASS correspondent under the headline "Conditions Returning to Normal": In the city of Sanandaj, in the center of Kordestan Province, talks have ended between the delegation headed by Ayatollah Taleqani, which was sent by Ayatollah Khomeyni, and representatives of the Kurds. According to a communique issued after the talks, the recent bloody events in this city were caused by seditious acts of supporters of the shah's regime, and under their incitement armed clashes occurred with members of the local garrison. Lack of full information made available to the people about the programs of the Provisional Government which includes provisions for securing equal rights and democratic freedom for all the nationalities residing in Iran is also one of the reasons for the disturbances.

Among other things, the communique affirms the right of the Kurds to participate in drafting and ratifying the new Iranian constitution and the right to choose local administrative organizations. In this document it is noted that the Iranian revolution guarantees the rights of the Kurds to use the economic potential of their region to raise the standard of living of the people and the progress of national culture. In a speech at a meeting in Sanandaj, Ayatollah Taleqani said that a Sanandaj city council will be established soon on the basis of elections, and among its duties will be the maintenance of law and order. Ayatollah Taleqani pointed out that in some Kurdish areas there is insurrection, and he invited the Kurds to solve the problems which are causing them uneasiness through negotiations.

Appointment of Kordestan Governor General

LD262210 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Radio Tehran has reported that Ebrahim Yunesi was appointed the new governor general of Kordestan. He is of Kurdish nationality and is known for his struggle against the shah's regime.

Shah's Collaboration With U.S.

LD252220 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 24 Mar 79 LD

[Text] We now draw your attention to another in the series of articles by Dr Bandareshkiy, who holds a doctorate in history, entitled: The Relationship Between the United States and Iran in the Past and at Present.

In his speeches, interviews and comments since 1973 the shah and the generals and admirals close to him frequently stated that safeguarding the continuous transportation of petroleum to the United States, Western Europe and Japan and the protection against foreign threats to the oil tankers that passed through the straits of Hormoz and into the Indian Ocean every 7 minutes were the Iranian Armed Forces' main responsibility.

When Great Britain announced in 1971 that she was no longer able to carry out this duty and the hands of the United States were tied up with the aggression against Vietnam, the shah's regime voluntarily accepted the duty of defending the tankers and safeguarding the profits of the oil cartels of the Western countries.

The shah's government laid the heavy burden of great expenses for the protection of the oil transport from the Persian Gulf upon the shoulders of the Iranian nation when only a quarter of the oil exported to the United States, Western Europe and Japan was produced in Iran. It should be added, of course, that nobody threatened the flow of oil through the Persian Gulf, and references to the presence of the Russian navy in the Indian Ocean were merely a bluff, because the Soviet Union had no permanent navy in the Indian Ocean and had no intention of forming one. The USSR also had no military bases in this region and did not intend to establish one. Israel, with her aggressive and expansionist policies, was the only country capable of endangering the sea routes in the region and, in fact, the Suez Canal was closed twice because of the Israeli Government's activities. But everyone knows that Israel is the chief ally of the United States and other Western countries in the Middle East. The United States did not want to safeguard the routes for transporting oil against Israel.

There was no question of safeguarding the sea routes of the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea against the aggression of the Soviet Union. The real question was to safeguard the positions of American and other Western monopolies against the daily increasing liberation movement of the masses of this region. American imperialism needed a gendarme to safeguard her position in this region, and the Iranian regime willingly accepted the role. The shah's regime also accepted the main role of [words indistinct] other American industrial complexes. Iran's huge orders for the most modern military aircraft, ships, missiles and electronic equipment not only poured billions of (?dollars) of profits to the coffers of the American military-industrial complex but also aided the biggest American companies in their production of the most modern types of weapons by paying some of the cost of the very expensive military research into weapon production. With its huge orders the shah's regime helped these companies overcome their difficulties during the middle years of this decade, when the Pentagon, due to internal and financial considerations, had temporarily reduced its orders.

It should also be mentioned that the shah's regime helped the ruling factions of the United States execute yet another of their very important and sensitive tasks by agreeing to provide the petroleum needs of the aggressive, racist regime of South Africa. Despite the anger and hatred of all progressive humanity and 400 million inhabitants of Africa and the Arab countries, 90 percent of the petroleum needs of South Africa and 65 percent of the petroleum needs of Israel were provided from Iranian oil at the order of the consortium. Iranian oil reached Israel through Eilat, on the Gulf of Aqaba, and reached Ashkelon by means of American pipes, where the aggressive 6th Fleet of America and the occupying armed forces of Israel received that oil. Also, everyone knows that for many years Iran had secret cooperation with the diplomatic services and intelligence agencies of Israel while the united front of the Arab nations, acting in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions, were fighting to release occupied Arab lands from Israeli hands.

During the current decade the shah's regime helped the officials of Washington and Beijing create obstacles to the solution of the differences existing in South Asia through diplomatic means. During the years 1977 and 1978 the shah's regime, in cooperation with and sometimes as a result of the direct orders from Washington, rudely interfered in the problems of the Horn of Africa, supported the Somali aggressors and prevented the peaceful solution of the differences in that region.

In May 1978 SAVAK, at the order of the CIA, indulged in evil plots against the people of Afghanistan and their April revolution in that country. In September 1978 the shah expressed his joy at the American success in preparing the separate Camp David treaty, whose sharp edge was directed against the unity and solidarity of the Arab nation and the right of the Palestinian nation to create a national home.

All the evidence and all the facts undeniably prove that during the 25 years since the coup d'etat of 19 August 1953--a coup d'etat that was engineered by the CIA--American imperialism has made Iran its most important military and political base in the Near East. Imperial Iran became the [word indistinct] in the chain of the military, political blocs of NATO, CENTO and SEATO through which the American rulers wanted to tie the hands and feet of the developing countries and to separate them from the Soviet Union.

All the above facts explain the reason why the American rulers, by ignoring international rights and standards, rudely interfered in the internal affairs of Iran and were prepared to interfere in Iran militarily in the autumn of 1978 in order to support the shah's regime and to destroy the revolution of the people of Iran. It was only through the unity and solidarity of the people of Iran and the unity of all the democratic forces of the country in their fight against the shah's regime and the American imperialism, on the one hand, and the Soviet Union's warning that the Soviet Union would not allow [words indistinct] foreign interference in Iranian affairs, on the other, that prevented armed interference by the United States.

Now the people of Iran, who have carried out their anti-imperialist revolution, are engaged in the elimination of the aftermath of the evil regime of the shah and American imperialism in their ancient country. The Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution of Iran has announced that Iran will no longer carry out the role of the gendarme of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. Iran has left CENTO and broken off its diplomatic relations with Israel and the Republic of South Africa, and it has imposed an embargo on the sale of its oil to the Israeli hawks and the racist government of South Africa. The Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution of Iran has announced that it intends to join the nonaligned movement and to pursue an independent policy of peace and friendship between nations in its international dealings. There is no doubt that the execution of this [word indistinct] policy in the international scene is based on the Iranian interest and will enhance Iran's international standing.

Denial on Soviet Interference

LD241205 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 79 p 5 LD

[Andrey Grachev "Commentator's Column": "The Policy Line is Goodneighborliness"]

[Text] The Iranian press reports measures by the government to settle the conflict with rebels amongst the Kurds inhabiting the country's northwestern area.

At a meeting in Sanandaj, Ayatollah Taleqani, who heads the so-called conciliation committee, has called upon the Kurds to give the Iranian Government "time" to find solutions to the numerous problems that currently confront the Iranian revolution. Indeed, Iran has received a difficult inheritance from the overthrown anti-people regime. In the process of consolidating the gains of the revolution, economic activities have to be normalized, the work of the administrative machine has to be going smoothly and other matters have to be resolved.

The social and political life of the country is being organized afresh. The agenda includes a large number of complex problems stemming from the multinational composition of Iran's population.

In addition to the objective difficulties there are difficulties which are being created artificially by counter-revolutionary forces and imperialist agents. The enemies of the Iranian people are attempting to sow dissension and bring into conflict the various parties, currents and groupings which, by their joint actions, secured the victory of the revolution. Reaction and imperialist agents are using various methods and means to cause friction between Iran and its neighboring states, particularly the Soviet Union.

For this purpose provocative slanderous rumors are regularly floated about "Soviet interference" in Iranian affairs, the infiltration of Soviet agents and the Soviet Union's interest in the discussion of Soviet agents and the Soviet Union's "interest" in the "dismemberment" of Iran. The same sources spread fictions about the USSR's "fundamental hostility" to "all Muslim countries".

These gentlemen are expending their energies in vain. They will not succeed in provoking a quarrel between Iran and the Soviet Union or in disuniting the peoples of the two neighboring states. The USSR resolutely came out on the side of the Iranian national revolution and did everything to prevent any sort of interference in Iran's affairs from abroad and to foil the plans for armed intervention against the revolution. At the present time the Soviet Union wishes the Iranian people the speediest settlement of the economic, political and nationality problems confronting them. In resolving these problems there must not be any interference in Iran's internal affairs and there must not be any attempts to put pressure on it. Good neighborliness, mutual respect, joint benefit and cooperation are the course that our country invariably pursues in its relations with Iran. The USSR is sincerely interested in its neighbor Iran being a strong, free and independent state confident of its future.

COMMENTARY ON GROMYKO VISIT TO SYRIA, COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

Joint Communique

LD261844 Moscow TASS in English 1803 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Damascus, March 26, TASS--Follows the joint communique on the results of Andrey Gromyko's visit to Syria:

Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, USSR minister of foreign affairs, has been on an official friendly visit in Damascus from March 24 to 26, 1979, at the invitation of the leadership of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Andrey Gromyko was received by General Secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, President Hafiz al-Asad of the Syrian Arab Republic. Andrey Gromyko and Hafiz al-Asad held talks, which proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality and full mutual understanding characteristic of the Soviet-Syrian relations. Taking part in the talks was Jamil Shayya, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Andrey Gromyko conveyed to Hafiz al-Asad friendly greetings and wishes from General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev.

Main attention at the talks was devoted to the dangerous developments in the Middle East in connection with the conclusion of a separate treaty between Israel and Egypt with the active participation of the USA. The sides have resolutely condemned the treaty as one directed against the interests of the Arabs, including the Egyptian people. They expressed conviction that the treaty is called upon to perpetuate the occupation by Israel of the Arab lands captured by it in 1967, including the annexation by it of the Eastern part of Jerusalem and to prevent the exercise of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine. It is conducive to a further aggravation of tensions in that area and creates a serious obstacle in the way towards attaining a just peace in the Middle East.

The Soviet Union and Syria have reaffirmed their determination to continue joint efforts for the attainment of a comprehensive just settlement on the basis of full withdrawal of the troops of Israel from all the Arab territories occupied by it in 1967, exercise of the inalienable national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including its right to self-determination and creation of its own independent state, as well as the right of the Palestinians to return to their homes in conformity with the UN decisions. The sides are convinced that renunciation of the policy of separate deals would open the way to such a settlement on the basis of collective efforts by all the sides concerned, including the Palestinian Arabs.

They condemned the continuing occupation of Arab territories by Israel, its refusal to recognize the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine as well as, Israel's continued unlawful actions in these territories and the creation of Israeli settlements there.

The Soviet Union and Syria resolutely reject the path of separate deals and hold that it serves only the expansionist designs of Israel and its accomplices. They specially pointed out that under cover of the Israeli-Egyptian treaty, the imperialist forces are trying to expand their military presence in the Middle East. They condemned the capitulatory actions of the Egyptian leadership inflicting serious damage to the struggle of the Arab and African peoples for national liberation and strengthening independence.

The sides are profoundly convinced that in the conditions, that are taking shape, particularly important are consolidation and coordination of actions by all the Arab states opposing the separate policy and coming out for the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression and for the attainment of a cardinal and just Middle East settlement.

In this connection, the sides have highly evaluated the decisions of the Arab summit meeting in Baghdad, which has made a weighty contribution to the cause of consolidating the Arab countries in opposing the plans of imperialism in the Middle East and the capitulatory course in the Middle East affairs. The sides pointed out the importance of implementing the decisions of the Baghdad meeting.

The Soviet Union highly evaluates the principled stand of Syria, its positive contribution to strengthening the unity of the Arab states rejecting the path of separate deals.

The Syrian side expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union for the all-round support for the righteous struggle of the Arab peoples and stressed the necessity of its participation in the Middle East settlement at all of its stages.

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The Soviet side highly assessed the determination of the leaders of Syria and Iraq to strengthen unity between them and act jointly for frustrating the capitulatory course in the Middle East affairs, strengthening the cohesion of the Arab countries in repulsing the Israel aggression and ensuring the legitimate inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

The sides pointed out the significance of a further strengthening of friendly ties of Syria and other Arab countries with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries and declared their determination to further give a rebuff to any attempts at undermining Soviet-Arab friendship.

The sides expressed satisfaction with Soviet-Syrian cooperation in various fields and stressed that the Soviet Union and Syria regard a further steadfast development and deepening of their friendly relations as an important objective of their foreign policy.

They declared their determination to broaden and strengthen the mutually beneficial and fruitful cooperation between the two countries, attaching paramount significance to the development of political relations.

The Soviet Union and Syria have reaffirmed the great significance they attach to the practices of political consultation between the leadership of the two countries on issues of the Middle East situation, that are of mutual interest, and other topical international problems. It was stressed that these consultations particularly at the top level are making a fundamental contribution to outlining the ways for a further development of Soviet-Syrian relations. They intend to continue and develop this useful practice.

Andrey Gromyko expressed gratitude to the Syrian leadership for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to him during his stay in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Gromyko on Egyptian-Israeli Treaty

LD261040 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 25 Mar 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vsevolod Shishkovskiy]

[Text] As is being reported from Washington, the signing of the so called peace treaty between Israel and Egypt is expected to take place in the White House today. Egyptian President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin are there. As everyone knows, this treaty or, more precisely, separate deal, drawn up under the aegis of Washington, does not secure the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories and ignores the right of Palestinians to create their own state.

As Andrey Gromyko, USSR minister of foreign affairs, stressed during his brief visit of friendship to Syria, the separate deal being drawn up between Israel and Egypt is directed against the Arabs and deals a blow to the interests of all Arabs without exception. Such a treaty, Comrade Gromyko noted, cannot lead to a just and therefore stable peace in the Near East. Its real aim is to try and secure the results of the many years of aggression by imperialistic forces against the Arabs.

Statement Before Leaving Syria

JN261338 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] In a statement he made at the airport to SANA's correspondent, Gromyko saluted President Hafiz al-Asad and said: I can say very specifically that my talks with President Hafiz al-Asad of the friendly Syrian Arab Republic were useful and necessary.

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These talks dealt with numerous topics. Naturally, the Middle East issue was foremost among the topics discussed. As a result of an exchange of views we came to the conclusion that the stands of Syria and the Soviet Union are one on all issues related to the Middle East situation.

Gromyko added: When I talk about important issues I mean the Syrian and USSR stands on the Camp David separate deal and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty imposed by the United States.

The Soviet foreign minister continued: We can rightly say that Syria and the Soviet Union are proceeding together on all these issues.

Andrey Gromyko said that it is very important during this state to strengthen cohesion among all Arabs.

Timoshkin on Visit

LD270934 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by A. Timoshkin]

[Text] Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and USSR foreign minister, returned to Moscow from Damascus today. During his friendly and brief visit to the Syrian Arab Republic, he conducted talks with President Hafiz al-Asad and other Syrian leaders and received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

During the meeting between Andrey Gromyko and President Hafiz al-Asad, the current situation in the Middle East and issues connected with Soviet-Syrian cooperation were discussed. The talks were held in a spirit of full understanding. This has been one of the most significant features of all the regular meetings between the leaders of the two friendly countries, who have adopted united stands on a wide range of international issues, but chiefly on the question of achieving a comprehensive and just settlement to the Middle East crisis.

Speaking at a reception held in his honor in Damascus, Andrey Gromyko again expressed the firm principled stand of the Soviet Union toward Middle East issues. The Soviet Union affirmed its determination to continue to work for a just comprehensive settlement based on the total withdrawal of Israel's forces from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the exercise of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state, as well as the rights of the Palestinians to return to their homes in accordance with UN resolutions. Therefore it goes without saying that the Soviet and Syrian sides strongly condemn the separate Egyptian-Israeli agreement as it goes against the interests of the Arabs, including those of the Egyptian people. As Andrey Gromyko stated at the reception in Damascus, this treat creates new obstacles on the road to peace in the Middle East and intensifies the contradictions in the region. It also sows many seeds of fresh conflicts and unrest in the region.

It is also important to point to the fact that the Soviet Union continues to consider effective Arab solidarity as one of the strongest weapons in the hands of the Arabs. Andrey Gromyko said the more united and firmer the Arab countries are in upholding their rights, the more difficult it will be for their enemies to impose solutions contrary to their interests. Therefore, Andrey Gromyko's comments before leaving Damascus today in support of the forthcoming Arab conference is only logical. He said we are optimistic about the outcome of the Arab foreign minister's meeting in Baghdad. The minister said that this conference will be a further contribution to the common cause of struggle for the removal of the consequences of Israeli aggression.

MOROCCAN LABOR UNION CONGRESS STARTS, RECEIVES MESSAGE

LD251804 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 25 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, March 25, TASS--The Sixth Congress of the Moroccan Union of Labour--the leading trade union association of the country, began in Casablanca. Mahjoubi Ben Seddik, secretary general of the union, made a report at the congress. The Party of Progress and Socialism addressed the delegates in a message of greetings. The message highly appreciates the role of the Moroccan Union of Labour in the defence of vital interests of the Moroccan working people and in the struggle for the unity of the trade union movement. The message points out that the present congress met in a complex situation which is characterised by a deepening of the socio-economic crisis in Morocco and and by a deterioration of the material position of the working people.

Conclusion of Conference

LD270705 Moscow TASS in English 0615 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, March 27, TASS--The Sixth Congress of the Moroccan Labour Union (UMT), the biggest trade union centre of the country, ended in Casablanca. The congress adopted a resolution in support of the Moroccan working people's just struggle for their lawful demands, against rising prices and unemployment in the country. The congress elected a new Executive Committee of the UMT and Mahjoub Ben Seddik was re-elected as secretary general of the UMT.

KOSYGIN, GROMYKO CABLE NEW ALGERIAN COUNTERPARTS

LD261740 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 26, TASS--USSR Premier Aleksey Kosygin sent a telegramme to Mohamed Benahmed Abdelghani with congratulations and best wishes on his appointment to the post of prime minister of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic. I would like to express confidence, the telegramme says, that your activities as APDR prime minister will promote the development and deepening of relations of firm friendship between the Soviet Union and the Algerian People's Democratic Republic, the strengthening of universal peace and security. In his reply telegramme Mohamed Benahmed Abdelghani expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes. I am particularly glad, the telegramme says, that friendly relations between the APDR and the USSR have reached a high qualitative level. I am convinced that our two countries, united by solidarity in the joint struggle for freedom, justice, progress and peace, will go on stepping up the struggle against imperialism, expansionism, Zionism and [word indistinct].

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko sent a telegramme to the minister of foreign affairs of the APDR Mohamed Seddik Benyahia, congratulating him on his appointment as foreign minister of the APDR and wished him success in his activities in this post. In a reply telegramme the APDR foreign minister expressed cordial gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes. The telegrammes of the two ministers express certainty that the traditional relations of friendship and bilateral cooperation, closely uniting the two countries, will go on successfully developing and deepening to the benefit of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Algeria.

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MILITARY SITUATION IN UGANDA REPORTED

Entebbe Airport Center of Fighting

LD271020 Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] London, March 27, TASS--Military operations were resumed in Uganda between troops of President Idi Amin and forces opposing him, that had earlier seized southern regions of the country with the towns of Masaka and Mbarara. At present, Uganda Radio reported, fighting had been shifted to the area of the main airport of the country, Entebbe, which lies 30 kilometres south of Kampala, the capital of the country according to dispatches coming in. Communications between the capital and Entebbe, where the residence of the president is located, were cut. The opposition forces, the broadcast said, are supported by artillery and tanks. REUTER correspondent in Nairobi, quoting diplomatic sources, said that an uprising of military units, headed by Defence Minister Emilio Mondo, was possibly taking place in Entebbe. The personal assistant of the president however, denied this report.

Contradictory dispatches are coming in on the whereabouts of President Amin. According to some of them he took shelter in northern Uganda.

Curfew Imposed

LD261440 Moscow TASS in English 1428 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] London, March 26, TASS--According to reports from Kampala, curfew has been introduced in Uganda in connection with the complication of the Ugandan-Tanzanian conflict, that is continuing already for several months. The closure of the international airport in Entebbe was also announced. Flights by planes of foreign air companies over the country's territory have been prohibited.

ETHIOPIA'S MENGISTU RECOGNIZES SOCIALIST COUNTRIES' AID

LD260939 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[TASS report: "Relying on the Experience of the Socialist Countries"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 15 March--The Ethiopian revolution struggling against the intrigues of international imperialism and reaction and for the building of a new society on the basis of the principles of scientific socialism is not alone. It enjoys all-round support from the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries, Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of Ethiopia's Provisional Military Administration Council [PMAC], has stated.

Speaking to national army fighters during a tour of Sidamo Province, he stressed that when, as a result of foreign aggression and a plot by internal counterrevolution and separatists, the very existence of revolutionary Ethiopia was jeopardized, the socialist community countries, guided by the principles of internationalism, came to its aid.

The revolution must know how to defend itself. Therefore, the army's duty is vigilantly to stand guard over the people's achievements and to halt the intrigues of imperialism, which has not abandoned its criminal attempts to stifle the Ethiopian revolution.

The PMAC chairman expressed the conviction that the people's masses of Ethiopia, relying on the experience of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, will cope successfully with the tasks set by the campaign which is being mounted in the country to boost the national economy.

MILITARY AGGRESSION BY SOUTH AFRICA, RHODESIA CONDEMNED

LD261734 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Report from Dar es Salaam by correspondent Georgiy Voytsekhovskiy--apparently recorded]

[Text] The South African and Rhodesian racist regimes are fanning the flames of the military hotbed in southern Africa. They have initiated widespread aggression against the three independent states: Angola, Zambia and Mozambique. Separate provocations against these countries have been replaced by widespread intervention. Its initial stage can be seen in the mass air raids by the South African and Rhodesian air forces on the territories of Angola, Zambia and Mozambique.

The air pirates are concentrating their bombing attacks on frontier areas, but are also spreading them to regions farther away. Recently the racists bombed Soque, a town in Mozambique 150 kilometers from Maputo. The town is an agricultural center which is under construction with no military targets whatsoever. The jet bombers of the Rhodesian Air Force dropped their bombs on peaceful districts.

Dozens of villages far inside Zambia and Angola have been subjected to barbarous bombings by the South African Air Force. Raids are executed by 8 to 10 jet bombers and as many helicopters. Peaceful inhabitants are strafed with machinegun fire.

The regimes in Pretoria and Salisbury have also begun to use ground forces. Racist infantry subdetachments, supported by armored cars and tanks, have intruded into Angola and Mozambique. They burn peasants' houses and torture and execute innocent people.

The aggression of South Africa and Rhodesia against Angola, Zambia and Mozambique has been worked out and planned to the smallest detail. It has become known that certain NATO countries and Western intelligence services are involved.

The criminal attacks by South Africa and Rhodesia on the neighboring African states are a joint attempt by the racists and imperialists to split the front of the liberation struggle in southern Africa and preserve the sphere of undivided domination.

JUSTICE MINISTRY COLLEGIUM DISCUSSES FIGHT AGAINST CRIME

LD261001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Mar 79 p 6 LD

[Text] TASS--An expanded session of the Justice Ministry Collegium attended by union republic ministers of justice and Supreme Court chairmen, certain leaders of oblast justice organs and courts, people's judges and Ministry Department and Soviet organ executives was held on 19 March under the chairmanship of USSR Justice Minister V.I. Terebilov. The collegium discussed a report by A.Ya. Sukharev, first deputy minister of justice, "on the course of the fulfillment by justice organs and courts of party and government decisions, demands of the Constitution and instructions of L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on matters relating to the further strengthening of socialist legality and intensification of the struggle against crime and lawbreaking."

The report and the speeches stressed that, proceeding on the basis of the tasks set by the 17 January 1979 USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution on the practice of the application and observance by organs of the prosecutor's office and internal affairs of legislation on protecting law and order and combatting lawbreaking, justice and court organs must focus attention on stepping up the struggle against the most dangerous crimes against citizens' lives and health, theft of state and public property and malicious hooliganism, coordinate this work more closely with organs of the prosecutor's office and USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs and make fuller use of social resources and the possibilities of labor collectives in crime prevention.

Great attention was devoted to the courts' examination of cases concerning crimes by minors.

It was noted that efforts must be concentrated on implementing concrete measures to eliminate circumstances which contribute to the commission of crimes, uncovering and eliminating the reasons for recidivism and organizing individual educational work with minors.

It was pointed out that measures must be adopted to enhance the role of legal means in the struggle against infringements on socialist property, to uncover and eliminate the causes of and conditions which give rise to theft and mismanagement and insure the fulfillment of the demands of the law on full compensation for material damage to the state as a result of crimes.

TURKMENISTAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE HOLDS PLENUM 15 MARCH

LD261111 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 16 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed information report on Turkmenistan CP Central Committee plenum]

[Text] On 15 March the scheduled 15th plenum of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee was held in Ashkhabad. It examined the following questions:

The further improvement of work with letters, complaints, statements and the reception of working people in the light of the demands of the 25th CPSU Congress:

The work of the Chardzhouskiy Party Obkom in fulfilling the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Bureau resolution on improving the style and methods of organizational and ideological work of Chardzhouskaya Oblast party committees in the light of the demands of the 25th CPSU Congress and the 21st Turkmenistan CP Congress:

Organizational questions.

M.G. Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee, delivered a report on the first question.

P. Annaorazov, member of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Bureau and first secretary of the Ashkhabadskiy Party Obkom; N.V. Makarkin, member of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Bureau and chairman of the Turkmen SSR People's Control Committee; Kh. Sukharnov, chairman of the Turkmenistan CP Auditing Commission; B. Atayev, first secretary of the Tashauzskiy Party Obkom; R.A. Annayev, chairman of the Chardzhouskiy Oblispolkom; A. Khiyabayev, machine operator at the Krasnovodskiy Rayon construction materials combine; M.A. Charyyev, candidate member of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Bureau and chairman of the Turkmenistan Trade Unions Council; S.N. Saparov, chairman of the Ashkhabad Gorisp obkom; O.I. Ishankuliyeva, first secretary of the Turkmenistan Komsomol Central Committee; G. Annamukhamedova, chairman of the "Kommunizm" Kolkhoz, Turkmen-Kalinskiy Rayon; B. Kerimi, editor of the newspaper SOVET TURKMENISTANY; Ye. T. Mitrin, first secretary of the Krasnovodskiy Party Obkom; A. Aymamedov, Turkmen SSR minister of justice; A. Pirkulyyev, first secretary of the Chardzhou Party Gorkom; Ye.G. Rybalov, Turkmen SSR minister of trade, and S. Orazmamedov, Turkmen SSR minister of municipal services, took part in the debate on the report.

D.M. Lyubinov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee general section letters subsection, delivered a speech at the plenum.

R. Khudayberdiyev, first secretary of the Chardzhouskiy party obkom, delivered a report on the second question.

The plenum adopted appropriate resolutions on the questions examined.

The plenum elected V.F. Zhulenev member of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Bureau and secretary of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee.

In connection with his departure to take up studies the plenum released V.N. Rebrik from his duties as chief of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Industry and Transport Section. V.A. Kharkov was appointed chief of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Industry and Transport Section.

The plenum promoted Turkmenistan CP Central Committee candidate members S.N. Muradov, R. Ya. Maksudov, B. Tagandurdyev and V.F. Belonokhkina to full membership of the Central Committee.

Ye.G. Kuznetsov, CPSU Central Committee instructor, and A.N. Molokoyedov, CPSU Central Committee consultant, took part in the work of the plenum.

PARTY OBKOM PLENUMS HELD IN UZBEKISTAN

LD270819 [Editorial Report LD] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 13 March 1979 front-pages a 350-word unattributed report on a 10 March Karakalpakskiy Obkom Plenum which discussed the tasks of the autonomous republic's party organization stemming from the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum decisions and L.I. Brezhnev's guidelines and recommendations on further increasing livestock-raising production. The report was delivered by obkom First Secretary K. Kamalov.

FRAVDA VOSTOKA 14 March 1979 publishes on page 2 a 1,200-word correspondent K. Tsikanov report entitled "Plenum Discusses Livestock-Raising Problems" on a Khorezmskiy Obkom plenum devoted to the further development of livestock raising. The report was delivered by oblispolkom Chairman R. Ishchanov, and the plenum was also addressed by obkom First Secretary M. Khudaybergenov and Uzbek Agriculture Minister A.A. Urkinbayev.

ROMANOV ATTENDS LENINGRAD OBLAST SESSION

LD262115 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Summary] A session of Leningradskaya Oblast Soviet is now being held at Smolnyy. "Taking part in the session is Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom."

KIRGIZ MINISTER OF TRADE TRANSFERRED

LD231405 [Editorial Report LD] Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 13 Marh 1979 front-pages a 12 March 1979 Kirgiz SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on the appointment of Mukash Umuraliyev as Kirgiz minister of procurements.

The same paper publishes on page 4 the following unattributed report:

"By a decree of 12 March 1979 the Kirgiz SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium released Comrade Kurmanbek Kaziyeovich Atashev from his duties as Kirgiz minister of trade in connection with his transfer to other work."

RETIRING RSFSR FOOD MINISTER REPLACED

LD231157 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 March 1979 publishes on page 2 an RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree appointing Stepan Ivanovich Chistoplyasov RSFSR minister of food industry, and a report that A.P. Klemenchuk has been released from his duties in that post "in connection with his retirement."

BRIEFS

KAZAKH APPOINTMENT--The Kazakh Council of Ministers has appointed Yefim Avramovich (Kossak) deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and Book Trade, having relieved of those duties Comrade Nikolayev in view of his transfer to another job. [Text] [Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1511 GMT 21 Mar 79 AU]

UKRAINE'S SOCIAL SECURITY MINISTER--The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Aleksandra Mikhaylovna (Yakyanenko) Ukrainian SSR minister of social security. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 20 Mar 79 AU]

DELINQUENCY PREVENTION--An oblast conference of party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol aktivs and workers of administrative organs was held in Lutsk on 19 March. A report on the state of and measures for the further intensification of measures to prevent delinquency in collectives was delivered by Volynskiy Obkom First Secretary Korzh. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 19 Mar 79 AU]

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS 24-26 MARCH

LD270500 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 24 March reports that the sowing of corn has begun in the Karakum Canal Zone in southern Turkmenia. In Kirzhiziya, the warm weather that has prevailed during the last few days has helped to speed up sowing there. Wheat and barley are being sown in the (?valleys) and sowing in the uplands will soon follow. The sowing of spring crops, including cereals and perennial grasses, has been completed in the Shelkovskiy Rayon of Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR. In Belorussia, preparations for the sowing of potatoes are far advanced.

At 0830 GMT the radio announces that spring crops are now being sown throughout the country. Plowing teams have begun work in Zaporozhskaya Oblast. Machine operators there hope to harvest more than 3 million tons of grain this year. 40,000 hectares have been sown with grain in Kirghizia so far. In southern Kazakhstan machine operators are sowing spring crops rapidly, but to a high standard.

At 1200 GMT the radio adds that field workers in Krymskaya Oblast are the first in the Ukraine to have completed the sowing of early spring crops, on 60,000 hectares.

At 1900 GMT the radio states that 2,200 sowing detachments in Rostovskaya Oblast are taking to the fields. The farmers have planned to sow early spring crops in a period of 80-100 hours.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0100 GMT on 26 March reports that sowing is under way in the Fergana Valley. The cotton target for the year is set at 1.68 million tons. The retention of melted snow has begun in the southern rayons of Altayskiy Kray. Machine operators in Kirgizia have started harrowing land to be sown to cotton. This is taking place in Oshskaya Oblast. In the last few years, great expanses of land in the Kyzylsu Valley have been opened up for agriculture, thanks to land improvement work. Machine operators plan to harrow a total of 70,000 hectares during the next few days, so as to retain spring moisture.

At 0500 GMT the radio discusses sowing in southern Kazakhstan. The sowing of perennial grasses, barley and spring wheat started today in Chimkentetskaya, Dzhambulskaya and Alma-Atinskaya oblasts. In the southern portion of the republic, over 1 million hectares will be planted. In the northern and central rayons of Kazakhstan, the snow is leaving the fields, and where the ground is warm, (?moisture retention) will be carried out. For the entire republic, over 30 million hectares will be sown with spring crops. 25 million hectares of this total area will be planted with grain.

At 0800 GMT the radio adds that this year the farmers in southern Kazakhstan face a great deal of work. Spring has come late in this region and farmers are counting the days. Complex detachments and teams are the answer. Specialists believe that by using such joint efforts the sowing of grain crops can be completed in 5-6 days.

At 0830 GMT the radio states that sowing is under way in the Ukraine. This year the republic will produce no less than 49-50 million tons of grain; 96 percent of the grain seed has been prepared to the highest standard.

At 1100 GMT the radio announces that scientists at the Kazakh State University have sent special teams to help in the presowing germination of wheat, cotton and other seeds in special installations on farms. This should raise the yield by 15-20 percent and improve its quality.

At 1130 GMT the radio reports that the sowing of cotton began in Tadzhikistan today. The area to be planted in fine-fibred cotton this year will be 100,000 hectares, which is one-third of the total area to be planted in cotton. The sowing should be completed in 5 or 6 days. The republic has pledged to sell 885,000 tons of cotton to the state.

At 1400 GMT the radio notes that the sowing of spring crops was completed in Stavropolskiy Kray today. More than 350,000 hectares have been planted. It adds that farms in the southern parts of Primorskiy Kray began sowing early spring crops today.

At 1600 GMT the radio announces that in the Ukraine the sowing of early grain crops has started in the foothills of the Central Caucasus in northern Ossetia. In Moldavia early grain crops have been sown in Kagulskiy and Chadyr-Lungaskiy rayons. Barley, oats, peas and fodders have been sown.

CROP DEVELOPMENT IN USSR FOR EARLY MARCH REPORTED

LD261545 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[Agrometeorologist K. Kirilichev report: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Mild weather was recorded in the European part of our country in the first 10 days of March. During the daytime the air temperature rose almost everywhere to plus 4-8 degrees and in the southern Ukraine and North Caucasus to 9-14 degrees. In regions north of a line between Riga, Tula and Saratov the average temperature exceeded the perennial temperature by 5-8 degrees and in more southerly regions by 1-4 degrees.

Precipitation fell on 1-2 days. Some 3-8 mm fell, and only in western Lithuania and the western Ukraine was there 10-20 mm of rain. There was no precipitation over the greater part of the territory of the North Caucasus, the eastern Ukraine and the south of the Central Chernozem Zone.

As a result of thawing and compression of the snow cover, its depth decreased everywhere. In regions south of a line between Lutsk, Ernpol, Chernigov and Volgograd as of 10 March either there was no snow at all or it was not over 5 cm in depth.

In extreme southern regions of Moldavia and the Ukraine, in the south of Krasnodarskiy and Stavropolskiy krays and in the autonomous republics of the North Caucasus the upper strata of the soil reached a soft plastic condition. Here the sowing of barley and peas was begun and winter crops and perennial grasses resumed vegetation. Swelling and opening of buds on fruit and berry crops started 10-20 days earlier than usual.

Over the greater part of the European territory winter crops and perennial grasses were under snow in a state of dormancy. Their wintering conditions were satisfactory. In a number of rayons of Leningradskaya, Permskaya and Kirovskaya oblasts and in the Bashkirskaia ASSR, where deep snow cover persists (35-70 cm and more in places) and the soil is not deeply frozen, the winter crops intensively used up nutrients in respiration. Measures facilitating rapid snow clearance and also early spring dressing and harrowing of crops well developed since the fall will be particularly effective here.

Central Asia continues colder than usual. Only in the southern regions was the average air temperature for the 10-day period 1-3 degrees above zero (4-7 degrees below normal). By day the air temperature rose to 8-12 degrees and in places 15 degrees. A considerable amount of precipitation--20-50 cm for the 10-day period--fell in Tadzhikistan. In southern regions of Central Asia the upper strata of the soil reached a soft plastic condition. The sowing of early spring crops and the preparation of areas for sowing more heat-loving crops were in progress.

In Siberia and the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan the average air temperature continued 3-5 degrees above the perennial average and 6-8 degrees in some places. In the majority of regions frosts did not exceed 25 degrees. The depth of snow cover in the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan the agricultural zone of Western Siberia, Krasnoyarskiy Kray and the Irkutskaya Oblast was mainly 20-30 cms.

III. 27 Mar 79

U S S R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
S C I E N T I F I C A F F A I R S

U 1

COSMONAUTS HEALTHY, CARRY OUT VARIOUS EXPERIMENTS

Medical Tests

LD261630 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 26, TASS--Special TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin had a day devoted to medical research today. The effects of measured physical loads on the blood circulation were studied in the first half of the day. The research was conducted so as to determine and predict the state and functioning of the cardiovascular system in conditions of orbital flight. An experiment was made to study the oxygen of orbital flight. An experiment was made to study the oxygen regime in the tissues of a human in the weightlessness conditions.

A comprehensive research of the blood circulation system for obtaining the data on peculiarities of redistribution of blood in the organism and the state of cardiac activity was also planned for today.

The perfection of the system of television communication "earth-orbit" also continues. Images of texts, blueprints and videotapes were relayed onboard the orbital complex.

A number of joint experiments on space material science are planned to be conducted on board the Salyut-6 station under the program of cooperation between the Soviet Union and France. Ampules with the materials to be studied were manufactured by the French side and brought to the station by the transport ship Progress-5. The first experiment to obtain semiconductor materials crystals in conditions of micro-gravitation was conducted last Sunday with the use of technological unit Kristal.

While scientific experiments are being made, the crew is carrying the utilized equipment to the transport ship Progress-5.

According to the cosmonauts' reports and the data of telemetric information, the onboard systems of the orbital research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-32-Progress-5 function normally. The cosmonauts feel well.

Cosmonauts' Physical Condition

LD270618 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0100 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Salyut-6-Soyuz-32-Progress-5--The crew of the orbiting complex, Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin, held a routine medical day. Earth, through the telemetry channels, registered various parameters of the functioning of the cardiovascular system of the commander and the flight engineer. The conclusion of specialists was that the state of health of the cosmonauts and the way they themselves feel is good.

A month of work in orbit--which even a few years ago was considered a long flight--has not lessened the work capacity of the crew. On the contrary, their ability to fulfill the program is increasing and becoming more reliable and stable with every passing day. The cosmonauts have made themselves at home. They are completing repair and prophylactic work. They have begun implementing some scientific experiments.

Everything in orbit is proceeding in accordance with our forecasts, (Anatoliy Dmitriyevich Yegorov), deputy head of the flight for medical provision and doctor of medicine, stressed in an interview with journalists. We have no need to suggest any medical measures to the crew, beyond those recommendations whose effective purpose we explained during preflight training.

Naturally, two people are two different organisms. Their reaction to weightlessness also differs. For example, the volume of the flight engineer's tibia [golen] has decreased a little. This is explicable. He is tall and this means that the redistribution of blood in his body occurs in a different way that it does in the commander. But we scarcely observe any reduction in weight.

The cosmonauts have passed favorably through the period of sharp adaptation. Ahead of them now is the reorganization of the organism in accordance with new conditions that are different to those on earth. They fully engage in physical training for 2 to 2 and 1/2 hours per day. The experience of previous expeditions gives us every grounds to assert that from the medical point of view the flight is proceeding normally.

SOLAR ENERGY TO BE USED FOR DEVELOPING KRAKUM DESERTS

LD270911 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 79 p 2 LD

[Correspondent N. Morozov dispatch: "What the Sun Can Do"]

[Text] Ashkhabad, 15 March--An Institute of Solar Energy has opened in the Turkmen capital. O. Ovezgeldyyev, vice president of the Turkmen SSR Academy of Sciences, describes the scientists' aims:

Our republic is the area of our country with the hottest sun. It shines for much of the year, and every square kilometer of desert can produce up to 40 million kilowatt-hours of radiation energy. Local inhabitants have made efforts since ancient times to utilize the sun's unusual generosity for domestic purposes, building the simplest of solar-heated shower baths and solariums. Scientific and technical progress has considerably extended the sun's working professions. Its energy, converted into electrical energy, raises life-giving moisture from deep beneath the sands. Solar-powered apparatus is in operation in the Karakum desalinating water. We have learned how to collect solar energy "in reserve" and to use it to heat apartments and to grow vegetables and citrus fruits in winter. Turkmen scientists are paying special attention to creating solar-powered air conditioners. Not far from Ashkhabad a three-story apartment block has been built where an installation is in operation which cools the apartments by using the sun's hot rays.

What problems will the scientists of the Institute of Solar Energy be resolving? Their main aim is to create economical, reliable, high-efficiency, low-temperature solar power installations. That is, equipment which will outperform in terms of technical and economic indicators installations operating on other types of energy. When the institute designers resolve this important problem, self-sufficient livestock complexes will be built in Karakum, where conditions are ideal for the development of Karakul sheep farming. They must be completely supplied by the desert's natural resources. The sun will provide electricity, demineralize water and heat and--this is especially needed--cool livestock premises and the shepherds' houses. The Karakum can become a factory of cheap energy. And then more desert lands will be opened up to crops and pastures. The scientists will be contributing to the conservation of nature and to the improvement of the rural inhabitants' working and daily living conditions.

III. 27 Mar 79

U S S R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
M I L I T A R Y D E V E L O P M E N T S

V 1

MILITARY LEADERS PAY LAST RESPECTS TO COL GEN P. ARTEMYEV

LD261421 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Last Respects"]

[Excerpts] On 22 March soldiers of the Soviet Armed Forces and working people of the capital paid their last respects to Col Gen (Ret) Pavel Artimyeovich Artemyev, the famous Soviet military leader and active participant in the Civil and Great Patriotic Wars.

The Red Banner Hall of the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army, where the coffin containing P.A. Artemyev's body was set out, was bedecked in mourning.

In the honour guard were Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, Army General S.K. Kurkotkin, Army General A.T. Altunin, Engr-Col Gen N.N. Alekseyev and Engr-Col Gen V.M. Shabanov, USSR deputy defense ministers; and also Army General I.N. Shkadov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Main Personnel Directorate.

Leaders Sign Obituary

LD270823 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[P.A. Artemyev obituary]

[Excerpts] Col Gen (Ret) Pavel Artemyevich Artemyev, a well-known Soviet military leader and active participant in the Civil and Great Patriotic wars, died on 19 March 1979. He had devoted his entire conscious life to the selfless service of the socialist motherland and to the cause of the Communist Party of which he had been a member since 1920. P.A. Artemyev was born into a peasant family in the village of Lisichkino, in the Poddorskiy Rayon of Novgorodskaya Oblast, in 1897. In the postwar period P.A. Artemyev was commander of the Moscow Military District and he worked in various responsible command positions.

[Signed] L.I. Brezhnev, V.V. Grishin, A.P. Kirilenko, A.N. Kosygin, M.A. Suslov, D.F. Ustinov, N.V. Ogarkov, V.G. Kulikov, A.A. Yepishev, S.L. Sokolov, V.F. Tolubko, I.G. Pavlovskiy, A.I. Koldunov, P.S. Kutakhov, S.G. Gorshkov, K.S. Moskalenko, S.K. Kurktkin, N.I. Savinkin, A.T. Altunin, N.N. Alekseyev, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, I.N. Shkadov, G.V. Sredin, S.P. Vasyagin, I. Kh. Bagramyan, P.F. Batitskiy, V.I. Chuykov, P.I. Batov, D.D. Lelyushenko, V.I. Petrov, V.Z. Yakushin, V.L. Govorov, K.S. Grushevoy.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER KURKOTKIN PRESENTS AWARD IN BALTIC

LD270825 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 79 p 2 LD

[Lt Col S. Sosodov report: "Banner for Foremost Workers"]

[Text] The Red Banner Baltic Military District--For achieving high results in all-union socialist competition in 1978 an enterprise which repairs mechanized field kitchens has been awarded the Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the all-union Komsomol Central Committee and featured in the all-union honor board at the USSR exhibition of national economic achievements. The winners were presented with the award by Army General S. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister and chief of the Soviet Armed Forces' Rear Services.